The Vlasov Case
History of a Betrayal

Volume 2
1945–1946

Edited by
Federal Archival Agency of Russia
The Russian State Archive of Social and Political History

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26 May, 1945
Top Secret
Copy No. 1
No. 737/a
Moscow

STATE DEFENSE COMMMITTEE[1]
To Comrade STALIN

Along with this I present the transcript of the interrogation of the arrested traitor VLASOV, A. A.

At the interrogation in the Main Directorate of SMERSH, VLASOV testified that since 1937 he has had feelings of hostility for the Soviet regime, and in June 1942, while in command of the 2nd Strike Force Army and located in enemy territory, he betrayed his Homeland, voluntarily surrendering to the Germans.

While with the Germans, VLASOV made contact with the German military command and German intelligence, under whose assignment he actively fought against the Soviet government and to that end: recruited from among enemy elements those of like mind who, in their turn, created anti-Soviet formations; released a number of anti-Soviet leaflets and entreaties to Red Army service members and to the population of the USSR with calls to armed struggle and overthrow of the Soviet regime; and conducted active enemy activity among Soviet military POWs and citizens of occupied territories of the Soviet Union.

In 1944, VLASOV received instruction from HIMMLER to unite all extant White Guard and nationalist organizations in Germany and other countries occupied by the Germans to fight together against the Soviet Union, and likewise to form an army from Soviet military POWs for armed conflict against the Red

Army. For the leadership of the anti-Soviet activities of these organizations, the German intelligence agencies formed a so-called "Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia," of which HIMMLER appointed VLASOV to be the chairperson. Fulfilling the assignment from HIMMLER, VLASOV actively united the functioning White Guard organizations: the Russian All-Military Union,[2] The National-Labor Alliance of the New Generation (NTSNP),[3] the Russian National Union of Participants of the War,[4] and White Cossacks under the leadership of Tsarist army General KRASNOV.[5]

VLASOV was unable to unite the anti-Soviet Ukrainian, Belorussian, Georgian, Azerbaijani, Turkestani, and other national organizations due to a difference of opinion between HIMMLER and ROSENBERG. The latter sought to retain influence over the indicated nationalist organizations.From Soviet POWs and White Guards, VLASOV formed the so-called "Russian Liberation Army," consisting of 2 divisions, one reserve brigade, an officers' school, and several special forces units, in total numbering as many as 40,000 persons, however only the 1st Division of the RLA was armed by the Germans, and took part in battles against Red Army units near Berlin.

Along with this, VLASOV managed to receive command, under Hitler's government, of the units of Soviet POWs formed by the Germans, which had previously been under the headquarters of the "volunteer troops of the east," under the command of German General Köstring, former military attaché of Germany to the USSR. However, the transfer of these troops was not implemented, since HITLER feared the unification of these segmented units into a single army.

According to VLASOV's testimony, besides HIMMLER, who directly conducted the anti-Soviet activity of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, he had meetings with GOEBBELS and RIBBENTROP, who also had conversations with him about the strengthening of anti-Soviet activity, and also with GÖRING, who gave VLASOV 4,000 Soviet POWs for the formation of Air Force units of the RLA.[6]

HIMMLER, GOEBBELS, and RIBBENTROP, in conversations with VLASOV, insistently asked him about the personal life of Comrade STALIN and those around him, and in those questions expressed interest in his relationships with Comrades BERIA, KAGANOVICH,[7] and ZHDANOV.

In April 1945, when Germany's defeat became evident, VLASOV and his closest co-conspirators—former General of the Red Army TRUKHIN, who was former head of the operational division of the headquarters of the Baltic Military District; MALYSHKIN, who was former executive officer of the 19th Army;[8] ZHILENKOV, who was a former member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army;[9] and ZAKUTNY, who was the former executive officer of the 21st Rifle Corps—fearing responsibility for the crimes they had committed against the Soviet regime and worried about being taken by the Red Army, made the decision to run to the side of the Anglo-American troops and lead the RLA units there as well.

While trying to cross to the side of the Anglo-Americans, VLASOV and TRUKHIN were arrested, the 1st and 2nd Divisions were disarmed[10] and taken prisoner, and their commanders, former colonels of the Red Army BUNYACHENKO and ZVEREV, were also arrested.

In addition, SMERSH's agencies arrested another 16 active Vlasov supporters, including: head of artillery for the RLA and former head of artillery for the 8th Rifle Corps of the Red Army, brigade commander BOGDANOV;[11] head of military training for the RLA and former commander of the 266th Rifle Division of the Red Army, Colonel TOVANTSEV;[12] executive officer for the 1st Division of the RLA and former deputy head of the operational division of the headquarters of the 12th Army,[13] Colonel NIKOLAEV; and head of artillery for the 1st Division of the RLA and former instructor at the AKUKS artillery school in Detskoe Selo,[14] Colonel SERGEEV, who are being interrogated.Since VLASOV, while with the Germans, made statements in his speeches to the effect that he had co-conspirators among the generals and officers of the Red Army, he was offered the chance to name them during the interrogation. Thus far, VLASOV has answered that he had no criminal contacts in the Soviet Union, and that he only said that to increase his image of authority with the Germans.

The interrogation of VLASOV continues, with a view to revealing all his enemy activity against the Soviet Union, discovering any possible criminal ties in the Red Army, and likewise [revealing] connections to other foreign intelligence.On our instructions, the SMERSH agencies of the fronts and armies are conducting special operations to find and arrest MALYSHKIN,

ZHILENKOV, ZAKUTNY, and other active Vlasov supporters who might be located in our territory.

At the same time, we have taken measures, through the Office of the Representative of the Council of People's Commissars (SNK) of the USSR for Repatriation,[15] to uncover the above-named individuals among those taken prisoner by the allies of the Soviets and transport them to our territory.

On the course of the remaining investigation into the case of VLASOV, TRUKHIN, and other arrested Vlasov supporters, reports will be made to you.

ABAKUMOV[16]

The Archive of the President of the Russian Federation. F. 3. Op. 50. D. 458. L. 37–40. Original. Typed text on the form of the Main Directorate for Counterintelligence SMERSH.

N° 1.2. Transcript of the interrogation of Vlasov A. A.

25 May, 1945

INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
Of the arrested VLASOV, Andrei Andreevich
from 25 May, 1945

VLASOV, A. A., born 1901 in the Gorky District, Russian, from a middle-class peasant family, has high school education, former member of the Communist Party from 1930, in the Red Army from 1920, former commander of the forces of the 2nd Strike Force Army of the Volkhov Front, Lieutenant General.

QUESTION: You betrayed the Homeland and on assignment of the German intelligence agencies led a fight against the Soviet regime. Under what circumstances did you establish criminal contact with the Germans?

ANSWER: As commander of the forces of the 2nd Strike Force Army and having ended up in the region of Liuban' encircled by German troops, I betrayed the Homeland. This was a consequence of the fact that since 1937 I have harbored enmity for the policies of the Soviet government, considering that the gains of the Russian people during the civil war were undone by the

Bolsheviks. The lack of success of the Red Army in the period of war with Germany I took as the result of unskilled leadership of the country and was convinced that the Soviet Union would be defeated. I was convinced that the interests of the Russian people had been turned into the benefit of the Anglo-American capitalists by Stalin and the Soviet government.

While surrounded by the enemy, my anti-Soviet leanings became more stark and, not desiring to fight for interests that were foreign to me, on 13 July, 1942, taking advantage of the arrival of the Germans in the village where I was located, I voluntarily surrendered to them.

QUESTION: Who from the German command interrogated you?

ANSWER: On 14 July, 1942, the Germans took me by car to the Siverskaya station to the headquarters of the German army group North, where I was interrogated by a colonel of the German general headquarters whose name I do not know.

The colonel interrogating me asked about the plans of the Supreme Command of the Red Army. I answered that I had been encircled by German troops for a long time and I did not know anything about the plans of the Soviet command. I also reported to the Germans on the missions of the 2nd Strike Force Army given by Supreme High Commander STALIN.

They also asked me whether I had met STALIN and what I knew of his personal life. I said that I had seen STALIN twice in the Kremlin, in February and March 1942,[17] and that I did not know anything of his personal life.

In addition, a German colonel suggested that I give a full description of ZHUKOV. I said that ZHUKOV was a strong-willed and energetic military leader, but that he was sometimes rude. To the question of whether ZHUKOV could become a second TUKHACHEVSKY, I answered that it was hardly possible since he was loyal to STALIN.

Then I was asked the question of how SHAPOSHNIKOV, a former officer in the royal army, had managed to remain safe and not be arrested, and could he take over the leadership of the government of Russia after the fall of the Soviet regime. I stated that SHAPOSHNIKOV, in my opinion, is also loyal to the Soviet government, but since I do not know him personally, I cannot answer the question as to whether he could lead a future government. I was asked what I know about the anti-Soviet

leanings of TIMOSHENKO, to which I answered that though we did serve together, I did not notice any sort of anti-Soviet inclinations from him.

They were also interested in hearing from me to what extent VOROSHILOV and BUDENNY were well-educated in the military sense. [I answered by] Citing the fact that they were both heroes of the civil war, they have been serving in the army for 25 years, they graduated from the Military Academy and therefore should be experienced military leaders.

There at Siverskaya station I was presented to the commanding officer of the German army group North, Colonel General LINDEMANN, with whom I was photographed, and then sent on to the city of Letzev, and from there to Vinnitsa, where at that time the headquarters of the Supreme Command of the German Army was located, and I was placed in a camp for military POWs.

QUESTION: Why did they place you in that particular camp, and how was it different from other camps?

ANSWER: The Vinnitsa camp was run under the auspices of the Intelligence Division of the German Army, and therefore only prisoners which held some interest for the Supreme Command were held there.

At first, I was in the camp with the following prisoners: Colonel BOYARSKY, former commander of the 41st Rifle Division of the Southwest Front; Major SAKHAROV, former regiment commander of the Red Army and some kind of engineer. Later, other prisoners began to arrive and by the end of July there were as many as 100 people.

In the Vinnitsa camp, the Germans worked at breaking down the POWs and luring them into the service of the German army. The first one to approach me was Major SAKHAROV, who, already in the service of the Germans, suggested that I take under my leadership a military unit made up of military POWs from the Red Army and fight against the Soviet regime.

Later, Colonel BOYARSKY and I were summoned by representatives of the Intelligence Division under the Headquarters of the Supreme High Command of the German Army, one Colonel RONNE and from the Division of Propaganda of the Supreme High Command,[18] Captain STRIKFELDT,[19] who stated that a large number of volunteers from among the POWs

were already serving on the side of the Germans, and that we should also take part in the fight against the Red Army.

I told RONNE and STRIKFELDT that for the Russians who want to fight against the Soviet regime, it was necessary to give them some kind of political basis for their actions so that they were not simply mercenaries for Germany. RONNE answered that the Germans had agreed to create a government of Russians which would be given power after the defeat of the Soviet troops. I told RONNE that I would think about the offer and let him know later.

After this conversation on 10 August, 1942, an advisor to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany named HILGER[20] arrived, a former advisor to the German embassy in Moscow, speaks fluent Russian, and, summoning me, he asked if I would agree to participate in a Russian government created by the Germans and what suggestions I had in relation to that. Though I told HILGER that we should wait until the end of the war to discuss such a topic, I nevertheless began to discuss with him what territories the Soviet Union should give to Germany. HILGER said that Ukraine and the Soviet Baltics should become part of Germany.

Then Captain STRIKFELDT summoned me again and reported that the Germans had managed to form several military units from Russian POWs and recommended that I agree to take command of these troops. Since that corresponded with my own anti-Soviet convictions, I stated to STRIKFELDT that I agreed to accept the offer of the Germans.

QUESTION: And so it came to pass that you set off down the road toward armed conflict against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: Yes, on STRIKFELDT's offer, I wrote an anti-Soviet leaflet in which I indicated that the war had been lost by Russia due to the unskilled leadership of the Soviet government, which was incapable of leading the country, and I called on the Russian people to overthrow this government.

In October 1942, the Germans proposed that I go to Berlin.

QUESTION: What for?

ANSWER: In order to have the possibility of meeting with imprisoned Red Army generals and using them for anti-Soviet work, which I asked of HILGER at the proper time.

In Berlin, I was placed in a camp under the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany. Also in this camp were generals MALYSHKIN, former executive officer of the 19th Army,

and BLAGOVESCHENSKY, former head of the training school for anti-aircraft defense of the People's Commissariat of the Navy in Libau,[21] and also ZYKOV, former member of the editorial staff of the newspaper *Izvestia*. I told them of my plans to fight against Bolshevism, to create a Russian national government and to begin forming a volunteer army to conduct an armed fight with the Soviet regime.

MALYSHKIN, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and ZYKOV supported me and expressed their readiness to take part in the fight against the Soviet regime, and ZYKOV even said that he was already conducting anti-Soviet work, cooperating in the publication of the newspaper Dawn [*Zarya*] by the Germans for the Soviet POWs.

In December 1942, STRIKFELDT organized a meeting for me in the Propaganda Division with Lieutenant General PONEDELIN,[22] former commanding officer of the forces of the 12th Army.

In my conversation with PONEDELIN, at my proposal to take part in creating a Russian volunteer army, he flatly rejected this, stating that the Germans might have been promising to form Russian units, but in reality they only needed a name that they could use for propaganda purposes.

Then I had a meeting with Major General SNEGOV,[23] former commander of the 8th Rifle Corps of the Red Army, who also refused to take part in the work I was doing, explaining his refusal by saying he feared for the fate of his relatives who were living in the Soviet Union.

After this, STRIKFELDT took me to one POW camp outside Berlin, where I met with Lieutenant General LUKIN, former commander of the 19th Army, who had had his leg amputated after being wounded and whose right arm was immobile.

In the presence of the Germans, LUKIN expressed his enmity in relation to the Soviet government, however, after I explained the goal of my visit, he spoke with me alone and told me that he did not believe the Germans, that he would not serve under them, and that he refused my proposal.

Having no success in my conversations with PONEDELIN, SNEGOV, and LUKIN, I did not speak any further with other Red Army generals imprisoned in the camps.

QUESTION: However, you continued to pursue the question of the formation of the so-called Russian Liberation Army?

ANSWER: The formation of volunteer units from among the Russian POWs was undertaken by the German Headquarters for Volunteer Forces, headed by the German generals HELLMICH[24] and KÖSTRING.

In December 1942, I asked STRIKFELDT a question about the transfer to my command of all formations of Russian units and uniting them into a single army. STRIKFELDT answered that the transfer of all work on the formation of Russian units was being held up due to the lack of a Russian political center. The Ukrainians, Belorussians, peoples of the Caucasus all, as STRIKFELDT told me, had their own political leadership organizations in Germany, and due to this, they had the possibility of forming their own national units, and therefore I, if I wanted to have any success in what I myself had started, needed to first create some kind of Russian political center.

Understanding the seriousness of the conclusions put forth by STRIKFELDT, I discussed this question with MALYSHKIN and ZYKOV, and with the participation of STRIKFELDT, we issued a document in which we declared the creation of the Russian Committee.

QUESTION: Who made up this Russian Committee that you created at the instruction of the Germans?

ANSWER: The committee was made up of: myself, MALYSHKIN, ZYKOV, and ZHILENKOV, former Secretary of the Rostokinsky Regional Committee of the Communist Party in Moscow, and then Brigade Commissar and member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army. ZHILENKOV was the political leader of the brigade formed by the Germans commanded by Colonel BOYARSKY.

MALYSHKIN and I put together a plan to write an address from the Russian Committee, which was redone several times at the instruction of STRIKFLEDT, and when it was ready, I as chair and MALYSHKIN as secretary signed it. In this address to the soldiers and commanders of the Red Army and to all the Russian people, it was indicated that the Russian Committee had as its goal the overthrow of STALIN, the destruction of Bolshevism, the creation of a Russian government, and the declaration of an honorable peace with Germany. A large number of copies of this address were printed up by the Germans and spread among the POWs and at the front.

QUESTION: You are presenting the address of the Russian Committee, dated 27 December 1942. This is the document you are speaking of?

ANSWER: Yes, this is the document I am referring to.

QUESTION: Why in the address that you wrote is it indicated that the location of the Russian Committee is in Smolensk at a time when you were located in Berlin?

ANSWER: Because the Russian Committee took on the function of the government of Russia, MALYSHKIN and I decided that it was not politically advantageous to indicate that the committee was located in German territory.

QUESTION: You led the fight with the Soviet regime and the Red Army as an assignment of the German intelligence agencies and the German military command. Testify as to what practical anti-Soviet activity you undertook in the name of the so-called Russian Committee.

ANSWER: Soon after the creation of the Russian Committee was announced, I traveled, accompanied by representatives of the German command, to the volunteer units formed by the Germans to strengthen the anti-Soviet work among the Russian POWs and to popularize the Russian Committee.

I first visited the Dabendorf training courses for propagandists for work among the military POWs. The head of the courses was General BLAGOVESCHENSKY, whom I managed to put at that post through STRIKFELDT. The instructors of the courses were Russian prisoners who were freed from the camps for this purpose. Among them was Major General TRUKHIN, former head of the Operational Division of the Headquarters of the Baltic Military District, who later became the head of these courses and also advertised himself as a member of the Russian Committee.

The Dabendorf courses trained some four thousand POWs, who were directed to become propagandists in POW camps and in Russian military units formed by the Germans, where they conducted anti-Soviet activity. I was in Dabendorf on 16 March, 1943, when I published an open letter in the newspaper Dawn [*Zarya*] under the headline "Why I Started on the Road to Fight Against Bolshevism," in which I slandered the leaders of the Soviet government and tried to prove the necessity of fighting against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: The investigation is presenting to you a printed version of the document. Is this what you are talking about?

ANSWER: Yes, I am talking about exactly this document.

After visiting Dabendorf, I traveled to Smolensk accompanied by a representative of the Propaganda Division of the German Army named Lt. Colonel SCHUBUT and Captain PETERSON, where I familiarized myself with the activities of the battalions of Soviet POWs created by the Germans and the volunteer detachment. There in Smolensk, at the initiative of the local city government, a meeting was arranged for me with representatives of the local intelligentsia. I gave a speech announcing the creation of the Russian Committee and the talks that were taking place with the German command about the formation of Russian armed forces for the fight against the Soviet regime.

In that same year, 1943, I visited Pskov, where I examined the battalion of volunteer troops and was at a reception with the commander of German forces operating outside Leningrad, Field Marshal General BUSCH,[25] who asked me to talk about the goals and missions of the Russian Committee at a meeting of German officers.

Speaking at that meeting, I stated that the Russian Committee was conducting an active fight against the Soviet regime and that the Germans would not be able to destroy the Bolsheviks without the Russians. My speech clearly did not please Field Marshal General BUSCH.

On the return trip to Berlin, I stopped in Riga and gave an anti-Soviet speech before the Russian intelligentsia of the city and also had a conversation with Metropolitan SERGII, who was living in Riga.[26]

QUESTION: Why was it necessary for you to meet with and what did you discuss with SERGII?

ANSWER: My meeting with Metropolitan SERGII was organized by a German officer who headed up propaganda in Riga, with the goal of establishing contact with the Russian Orthodox Church and using the clergy in the joint fight against the Soviet regime. SERGII agreed to meet with me about the necessity of strengthening the fight against the Soviet regime and said that he planned to create a Holy Synod in the districts occupied by the Germans. SERGII also said that only priests that have left the Soviet Union know the condition of the population

and can find common ground with them, whereas émigré priests have been cut off from the realities of Soviet life and do not have much authority among the public.

I recommended that SERGII not rush into the creation of a Synod, and first unite the clergy for the fight against Bolshevism and clarify the relationship of the population to the church. Insomuch as SERGII insisted that the main majority of the population is drawn to the church, I told him that it behooved both him and me to meet again and discuss this question in detail.

After returning from this trip, I met in Lötzen with the commanding officer of the volunteer units, Lieutenant General HELLMICH. HELLMICH offered to let me stay at the headquarters and help him lead the formation of Russian units. I refused the offer, stating to HELLMICH that as long as the Russian POWs were serving in German units, they would not fight against the Bolsheviks in the way they should.

I asked HELLMICH to give over to me all the work concerning the creation of Russian units in order to form several divisions that would answer to the Russian Committee. Unable to come to an agreement with HELLMICH, I returned to Berlin and from STRIKFELDT discovered that my speech while with Field Marshall Busch had become known to HIMMLER. HIMMLER [heard] at one limited meeting of the highest heads of the German army that the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany was consorting with some imprisoned general and allowing him to give speeches before the officers with statements that undermine their certainty that the Germans can break up the Soviet Union.[27]

HIMMLER proposed ceasing such propaganda and using only those prisoners who sign a statement on their agreement to serve in the German army.

After that speech by HIMMLER, I was inactive for some time and until 1944 did not leave Berlin. At about the same time, MALYSHKIN, who had traveled to France for propaganda purposes, was arrested after his speech in Paris.

QUESTION: What was MALYSHKIN arrested for?

ANSWER: While giving a speech at a meeting of White émigrés in Paris, MALYSHKIN, trying to prove the necessity of uniting all Russian formations under the leadership of our committee, said something negative about the activity of a Cossack administration formed by the Germans. MALYSHKIN

was arrested immediately after the speech and taken to Berlin accompanied by a German officer.[28]

QUESTION: Why did MALYSHKIN's speech elicit such a reaction from the Germans?

ANSWER: In June 1943, General KRASNOV of the White Army signed an agreement with Field Marshal General KEITEL and ROSENBERG that the Cossacks were obliged to fight on the side of the German army against the Soviet troops, in exchange for which the German government would provide them Cossack lands in the east and places to settle in other European countries. By the end of 1943, the Germans, exiling the local residents from regions of Northern Italy, organized Cossack settlements there.[29] MALYSHKIN's speech went against the policy of the German government, which led to his arrest. Through my intervention, MALYSHKIN was soon freed from German custody.

I did not renew my anti-Soviet activity from July 1944.

QUESTION: Why not?

ANSWER: I should say that in the first period of the war against the Soviet Union, the Germans ignored any and all cooperation with the anti-Soviet elements among the Russians. The Germans thought that the German military machine was so strong that it could break apart the Soviet army without anyone else's help and establish in Russia their own rule.

The declaration of the creation of a Russian Committee and my inclusion as the leader of this anti-Soviet political center was done by the Germans, for the most part for the sake of propaganda in order that, supposedly, the Russian people could lead the fight against Bolshevism together with the Germans.

In this period in Germany it was admitted that there were plans worked up by Hitler's Minister ROSENBERG to dismember the Soviet Union. In connection with this, ROSENBERG created various anti-Soviet organizations—Ukrainian, Belorussian, Georgian, Armenian, Azerbaijani, Turkestani, and others—headed by "national committees" that formed "national legions" from Soviet POWs for the fight against the Red Army. ROSENBERG appointed "presidents and leaders of the prepared 'governments' of the time" for Ukraine, Belorussia, Turkestan, Azerbaijan, and so on. After the Red Army dealt a host of serious blows to the German troops, the Germans saw that the policy of dismemberment of the Soviet Union had failed.

Already in 1943, among several generals and officers of the German army with whom I had the opportunity to speak there was talk of dissatisfaction with the policy of Hitler's government. Thus, when I was in Smolensk in 1943, I met with the commanding officer of the rear district, Field Marshal General Kuchler,[30] who told me that in his opinion the losses suffered by the German army in the East were growing due to the incorrect policy of ROSENBERG. Then STRIKFELDT told me that a worker of the General Headquarters for the Armed Forces of Germany, Major General GEHLEN,[31] had somehow told him that the policy of the government was only making the situation more difficult, increasing the number of enemies of Germany.

In June 1943, in a conversation with the German authors DWINGER [32] and BREHM and Gauleiter of Vienna von SCHIRACH,[33] they told me their opinion that Germany should build its policy in the East in cooperation with the Russians who were leading the fight against the Soviet regime. Obviously, considering these moods and the difficult situation of the Germans on the front in mid-1944, Hitler's government made the decision to draw Russian anti-Soviet formations into active opposition under the leadership of the Germans against the Bolsheviks, concentrating all this work in the hands of HIMMLER.

On 20 July, 1944, a representative of the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany in the East came to me, one Captain GROTE, who suggested that I go with him right away to see HIMMLER, but because of the attempt on HITLER's life that happened that day,[34] the meeting with HIMMLER was postponed and took place only on 18 September, 1944.

QUESTION: Where did you meet with HIMMLER?

ANSWER: In the headquarters of the Supreme Command of the Armed Forces of Germany, in the forest near Rastenburg (Eastern Prussia).

QUESTION: Who was present at your meeting with HIMMLER?

ANSWER: In the train traveling with me to the meeting with HIMMLER were: STRIKFELDT; a representative of the SS, Obersturmbanführer Krüger; and the Regimental Commander of Propaganda for the SS, Colonel D'ALQUEN.

In HIMMLER's reception room, we were met by Obergruppenführer BERGER, who announced that STRIKFELDT would not be present at the meeting.

QUESTION: What did you talk about with HIMMLER?

ANSWER: HIMMLER told me that the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany could not organize Russian POWs for the fight against Bolshevism, and due to this he was going to oversee the work himself personally. All Russian matters, HIMMLER said, would be handled by his deputy BERGER, and he appointed Krüger as his representative to me.

For success in the fight against the Soviet regime, HIMMLER proposed the unification of all existing White Guard, nationalist, and other anti-Soviet organizations in the German occupied territory and within Germany itself and that the leadership of their activities create a political center, offering me the freedom to choose whether to name this center a government or a committee.

Accepting HIMMLER's proposal, I asked him to allow me to create a committee under the name of Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and to form an army made up of 10 divisions from among the POWs to use against the Red Army. HIMMLER agreed to the creation of the committee and allowed the formation of five divisions for the time being from the POWs, promising to provide them with weapons.

Then HIMMLER instructed me to work on the Manifesto of the committee and present it to him for confirmation.

For the rest of the conversation, HIMMLER was deeply interested in the events in the Soviet Union in 1937. He asked whether there had in reality been a military conspiracy and whether it had any supporters. Wanting to show that within the Soviet Union there are opponents to the government that are fighting against the Soviet regime, I answered HIMMLER that the conspiracy really did exist. In fact, I always thought that there had never been a conspiracy and that the agencies of the NKVD had done away with innocent people.

HIMMLER asked me whether I knew TUKHACHEVSKY or other participants in the military conspiracy. I answered that at that time I was still a small person; I occupied a low level post and had no connection with TUKHACHEVSKY or other conspirators.

HIMMLER asked whether there were still people in the Soviet Union on whom the German government could currently count and who could organize a coup in Russia. I stated my opinion that such people surely must exist in Russia, but who they were was unknown to me.

Then HIMMLER asked whether I thought SHAPOSHNIKOV, as one of the officers of the old army who occupied a visible position in the USSR, could organize a coup. That question I did not answer, citing the fact that I was not closely acquainted with SHAPOSHNIKOV, having only been presented to him in 1942 as head of the General Headquarters. After this, HIMMLER asked how I knew STALIN, BERIA, KAGANOVICH, and ZHDANOV. HIMMLER was particularly interested in the personal life of STALIN: he asked where STALIN lived, who the members of his family were, and whether there were any Jews in the family or among those in STALIN's inner circle. I slandered STALIN, but I could not tell HIMMLER any details about STALIN's personal life, since in reality I did not know anything. With regard to BERIA, KAGANOVICH, and ZHDANOV, I could likewise say nothing to HIMMLER, since I knew nothing about them.

Then HIMMLER asked the question of who STALIN's successor could be. To my statement that it would be difficult to guess, HIMMLER expressed his opinion that in military matters STALIN's successor would obviously be ZHUKOV, and in civilian matters ZHDANOV. I said that ZHUKOV had been my boss in the past and that I knew him as a strong-willed and energetic but rude person.

Before letting me leave, HIMMLER asked whether I could handle such a responsible mission as to unite the anti-Soviet organizations of all the ethnic groups. I promised HIMMLER that I would succeed with this mission, seeing as during my 2 years in Germany I had made necessary contacts among the White émigrés and nationalists, and likewise that in the coming days I would present him with a draft of the Manifesto.

QUESTION: Who participated in drawing up the Manifesto written at the behest of HIMMLER?

ANSWER: The draft of the manifesto that we worked up and presented to HIMMLER was compiled by myself, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, ZHILENKOV, and Major General ZAKUTNY, who worked in GOEBBELS' agency and was formerly executive officer of the 21st Rifle Corps of the Red Army.

The Manifesto laid out the situation in the Soviet Union in an anti-Soviet way; it slandered the leaders of the Soviet government, which had supposedly led the country to war through its own incorrect policies, such that the peoples of Russia were now

spilling their blood for the imperialists of England and the USA. It attempted to prove the necessity of the fight against Bolshevism and informed readers about the creation, to this end, of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

The Manifesto declared that the committee had been formed for the liberation of the peoples of Russia from the Bolshevik system, for achieving peace with Germans, and for the creation of a Russian government without Bolsheviks. After that, the draft of the Manifesto was passed through Krüger to HIMMLER, and he made a number of corrections and approved it. The Manifesto was signed by 37 members and 12 candidates for membership to the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

QUESTION: In the hands of the investigation there is a typed Manifesto of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, dated 14 November 1944. Did you sign this document?

ANSWER: Yes.

QUESTION: In the Manifesto, it is indicated that certain members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia did not put their signature on this document due to the fact that they were located in the USSR. Give the names of these individuals.

ANSWER: That note at the end of the Manifesto was the idea of ZHILENKOV in order to create the impression that members of the committee were also acting on the territory of the USSR. I told ZHILENKOV that the Germans could demand of us that we give the names of these members of the committee, but ZHILENKOV answered that we could get out of that easily enough by naming several well-known commanders in the USSR and claiming that they were supposedly on our side.

QUESTION: But you yourself, in your public speeches, confirmed that you have conspirators among the generals and officers of the Red Army.

ANSWER: I have no conspirators in the Red Army. In my few speeches, I did indeed say that I supposedly had criminal contacts with individuals located on the territory of the USSR who were waging the fight against the Soviet regime, but in fact I had no such contacts and only spoke of them to increase my authority in the eyes of the Germans.

I should testify that at the beginning of 1944, two unfamiliar colleagues from the Investigative Division, who spoke Russian, came to me in Dabendorf.

One of them stated that they had supposedly managed to make contact with SHAPOSHNIKOV, who at the suggestion of the Germans had taken it upon himself to organize a coup within the USSR. These people asked me what I wanted to pass on to SHAPOSHNIKOV, and said that if I wanted to make contact with anyone else in the Soviet Union, they would help me with that. I asked how the Germans had managed to make contact with SHAPOSHNIKOV, however these individuals were silent and could say nothing intelligible. I understood that it was a provocation by the Germans, in order to test whether I had any contacts on the territory of the USSR, and I therefore refused to speak with them.

QUESTION: Name the individuals that were included in the Committee for Liberation that was formed by you on instructions from the Germans.

ANSWER: The Committee numbered around 60 members and candidates.

In addition to myself, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, and ZAKUTNY, the committee included:

Colonel BOYARSKY, former commander of the 41st Rifle Division of the Red Army;

Colonel BUNYACHENKO, former commander of the 389th Rifle Division of the Red Army;

Colonel MEANDROV, former head of the Operations Division of the Headquarters of the 6th Army;[35]

Professor of medicine BOGATYRCHUK, who had fled Ukraine with the Germans;

MUZYCHENKO, former Soviet journalist who fled the USSR with the Germans;

Lieutenant General of the Royal Army ABRAMOV, one of the leaders of the White Guard organization Russian All-Military Union;

White émigré KAZANTSEV, a leading member of the White Guard organization National-Labor Union of the New Generation;

General of the White Army BALABIN, leader of the White Cossacks;

Professor RUDNEV, White émigré.

QUESTION: You will be interrogated about the other members of the committee additionally, but now testify as to who appointed and recruited members of the committee.

ANSWER: After receiving instructions from HIMMLER on the creation of the Committee for the Liberation, I met with TRUKHIN, ZHILENKOV, ZAKUTNY, and MALYSHKIN, proposing that they gather candidates for membership in the Committee. TRUKHIN was supposed to gather candidates from the military, ZHILENKOV from the former political workers of the Red Army, and ZAKUTNY from among the civilian population. MALYSHKIN and I had dealings with the White émigrés. Two days later we met again and discussed together the presented candidates.

The list of members of the committee was sent through Krüger to HIMMLER, who approved it with a few corrections.

The first session of the committee took place on 14 November, 1944 in Prague, at which were present, in addition to the members of the committee, FRANK, the leader of the Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (Germ. Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren),[36] Obergruppenführer LORENS, and representatives of the Czech government that had been formed by the Germans. The session was opened by Professor RUDNEV, as the most senior member of the committee, who made a motion to appoint me as chair. After the confirmation of the manifesto we had worked up, the Presidium of the committee was elected, consisting of myself, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and White émigrés RUDNEV and BALABIN.

I was elected Chair of the Committee, and MALYSHKIN was elected secretary.

According to the temporary condition put in place by the Germans, civilian individuals were led by the chair of the committee together with the presidium, but the military individuals by the chair alone as Commander-in-Chief.

In addition, certain administrations were created within the Committee: military, led by TRUKHIN; propaganda, led by ZHILENKOV; civilian, led by ZAKUTNY; finance, led by Professor ANDREEV, who had fled the USSR with the Germans; and social aid, which managed the collection of donations for the needs of the committee, led by the White émigré ALEKSEEV.

QUESTION: You testified that HIMMLER tasked you with uniting all the White Guard and nationalist organizations for the fight against the Soviet regime. What did you do to this end?

ANSWER: In November 1944, at the suggestion of Krüger, I met with the official leader of Russian immigration in Germany,

General BISKUPSKY. I had never met with him before and saw him for the first time when BISKUPSKY came with me to see White Army General LAMPE, who was the leader of the Russian All-Military Union in Germany.[37] In the conversation, BISKUPSKY stated that he was a monarchist, stood for a single and undivided Russia, and thought that the monarchy was the most applicable form of government for Russia.

I told BISKUPSKY the main tenets of the draft manifesto and offered him to unite with us and go up against the Bolsheviks as a single front under the leadership of the committee. BISKUPSKY said that he agreed to join the committee only under the condition that it was reflected in the manifesto that Russia's future form of government would be a monarchy, and he suggested leaving the leadership of the committee to the White émigrés. We could not come to any agreement with BISKUPSKY.

LAMPE asked that the committee bring in the old officers who were part of the Russian All-Military Union to help form the volunteer units. He also insisted that it be said in the manifesto that the Russian All-Military Union played a large role, as the first organization actively fighting against the Soviet regime, and that it was now being called by the committee to a joint fight against the Bolsheviks. LAMPE offered to let me write an address to the members of the Russian All-Military Union calling them to work in the committee in the new situation. I declined this, and as a result no agreement was established with LAMPE. However, in January 1945, LAMPE accepted my conditions and joined the Committee for Liberation.

QUESTION: Who else from among the White émigré community did you meet with?

ANSWER: I made attempts to come to an agreement about unification with the leader of the White Cossacks, General KRASNOV, but these attempts did not lead to anything. KRASNOV stated that he had already sworn an oath to HITLER and was going to stand by it. In addition, he had a special arrangement with the German government that the White Cossacks would fight against the Soviet regime under the leadership of the Germans and for this they would receive Cossack settlements in European countries.

QUESTION: But White Cossacks did come under your chain of command, did they not?

ANSWER: Yes, they did, but this was separate from the wishes of KRASNOV. In March 1945, in Zagreb, there was a Cossack conference in which the decision was made for the Cossack units to join the movement headed by the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. Brigade Commander KONONOV[38] came to me as a representative of the Cossacks and brought me a letter from the conference. When I received this letter, I turned to Krüger and BERGER for clarification as to how I was to proceed in this matter.

I was immediately brought an order from HIMMLER on the dissolution of the Cossack administration and the subordination of all Cossack units to my command. The corps commander, according to this order, would remain the German PANVITZ,[39] who passed himself off as a Cossack.[40] Having received this order, I sent ZHILENKOV, along with KONONOV, to the Cossack corps. The White Cossack representative in the Committee, as I already testified, was the White Army General BALABIN.

In addition, I had conversations on a joint fight against the Soviet regime with the leaders of the active White Guard organization, the National-Labor Union of the New Generation: BAIDALAKOV, BRUNST, VERGUN, and POREMSKY.[41] I was able to come to an agreement with them due to the fact that BAIDALAKOV, BRUNST, VERGUN, and POREMSKY had been arrested by the Germans on suspicion of communication with the English. I interceded for their freedom, and the Germans granted my request.

On 5 April, 1945, they all came to me after being freed from prison and informed me of the dissolution of NTSNP and expressed their readiness to take part in our joint fight against the Bolsheviks. Soon after this, BAIDALAKOV, BRUNST, POREMSKY, and VERGUN left for the south of Germany. VERGUN was killed during a bombing on the road, and BAIDALAKOV was seriously wounded. Where POREMSKY and BRUNST are now, I do not know. In addition to the Russian All-Military Union, NTSNP, and the White Cossacks, the Committee for Liberation included the White Guard organization of the Russian National Union for Participants in the War, led by White Army General TURKUL.

QUESTION: How did you make contact with TURKUL?

ANSWER: HIMMLER's representative Obersturmbanführer Krüger suggested that I meet with TURKUL. At the end of

November 1944, TURKUL came to me, accompanied by his representative in Serbia, White Army General KREITER. In conversation, TURKUL asked what I thought of the White Guard movement, to which I answered that there was no difference for me who among the Russians would take part in the committee and wage a fight against the Soviet regime. We all needed to come together right now. Then TURKUL asked what would happen with his organization. I stated that it needed to be dissolved and the participants of the organization come under our chain of command. TURKUL and KREITER agreed to dissolve their organization. I promised them that, having done this, they would both have the opportunity to take part in the formation of military units.

These are the White Guard organizations that I negotiated with and brought over to our side. In addition, on the instruction of HIMMLER, I agreed with the leaders of other nationalist entities to conduct a joint fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Which nationalist organizations did you agree this with?

ANSWER: At the beginning of 1944, Committee Secretary MALYSHKIN had talks with the presiding officer of the anti-Soviet Belorussian Rada that had been formed by the Germans, OSTROVSKY, which was the name the Pole KALUZH was using for cover.

MALYSHKIN proposed that OSTROVSKY dissolve the Belorussian Rada and have the leaders join our committee in order to continue the fight against the Soviet regime together. OSTROVSKY rejected this proposal, stating that the Belorussian Rada was in ROSENBERG's chain of command and would continue its anti-Soviet activity under his leadership.

In December 1944, in the Administration of the SS under BERGER the Germans organized a meeting for me with the leader of the Ukrainian Rada, which existed under the ministry of ROSENBERG, one White Army General SHANDRIUK.

In conversation, SHANDRIUK stated that he was the representative of all Ukraine, and he insisted on the liquidation of the Ukrainian council that had been formed in our committee, the recognition of SHANDRIUK as the sole representative of Ukraine, and his right to appoint a representative to the committee. I did not agree to this, proposing that SHANDRIUK dissolve the Ukrainian Rada that he headed and join the committee

personally.[42] Unable to come to an agreement with SHANDRIUK, we tried to deal with the leader of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, BANDERA.

To this end, in December 1944, ZHILENKOV, through the actions of the Regimental Commander for Propaganda Forces of the SS, Colonel D'ALQUEN, had a meeting in one of the suburbs of Berlin with BANDERA, who was being held by the Germans under house arrest. What he was arrested for, I do not know.

To ZHILENKOV's proposal that he join the Committee, BANDERA said, verbatim, "Whatever Moscow might be like, the Russians nevertheless remain the enemies of Ukraine, since they brought Bolshevism to Ukraine, and therefore I do not want to have anything to do with any Moscow types."

At that time I was leading talks with the German appointed "President" of Turkestan, Kaium-khan, and a man named KEDIA or KENIA, head of the Georgian Committee under the ministry of ROSENBERG. Both of them were brought to me in Dabendorf by HIMMLER's representative, Krüger.

I talked about the plans of the committee to unite the representatives of all nationalities, but KAIUM-khan refused, saying, "We have a Turkestani Committee, and we signed an agreement with the German government through which Turkestan will be an independent state, and we do not want to have anything to do with Russia." A similar statement was made by the representative of the Georgian Committee.

After the talks with KAIUM-khan, we managed to make contact with YAMUTSKY through one of the White émigrés whose name I do not remember who happened to be close to Khan YAMUTSKY, who was a member of KAIUM-khan's committee. Khan YAMUTSKY was a visible representative of the former Turkestani aristocracy, and he was dissatisfied that the Germans had installed to the "presidency" the previously unknown KAIUM, whom they themselves gave the title of Khan, and so he willingly came over to us and headed the Turkestani council in the Committee, where he began to pull in other Turkestani nationalists.

In November 1944, during the period of the formation of the committee, I had a meeting with representatives of the Azerbaijani Committee under the ministry of ROSENBERG, Major DUDANGINSKY,[43] formerly Sr. Lieutenant in the Red Army, with whom I was acquainted due to overlapping service in the

headquarters of the Leningrad Military District. ROSENBERG was moving for DUDANGINSKY to be "president" of the future Azerbaijan.

To my proposal to unite in a joint fight against the Bolsheviks, DUDANGINSKY stated that he could appoint a representative to our committee, but the Azerbaijan Committee would continue to exist.

QUESTION: And did you in the end achieve the participation of these nationalist organizations in your joint fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: I was able to draw in only the Turkestani nationalists headed by Khan YAMUTSKY for join anti-Soviet activity. The Belorussian, Ukrainian, Georgian, and Azerbaijani nationalists refused to join the committee headed by me. The reason for this, as I know from Krüger, was that HIMMLER's attempts to unite all the anti-Soviet nationalist organizations under his leadership as members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia met with opposition from ROSENBERG, who tried in every way possible to keep these organizations under his own influence.

In this. ROSENBERG had the support of GOEBBELS and the head of Hitler's Imperial Chancellery, BORMAN.[44]

QUESTION: What military units for the fight against the Red Army were you able to form from the Soviet POWs?

ANSWER: Until November 1944, the formation of military units from Soviet POWs, as I already testified, was managed by the Headquarters of Volunteer Forces organized by the Germans and headed by the German General KÖSTRING.

It was known to me that these units were being formed only up to the battalion level in numbers, and that their command structure for the most part included German officers. Commanders of these units from the Soviet POWs were appointed from individuals of anti-Soviet leanings and scrupulously tested in the headquarters of the Volunteer Forces. Their selection was conducted by former commanders of the Red Army, Major SAKHAROV and Lt. Col. TARASOV.

In addition, national legions were formed through the national committees created by ROSENBERG, from Armenians, Tatars, Georgians, Uzbeks, and other ethnicities. The western Ukrainians formed the Galician Division, and there was a brigade of Kalmyks.[45] There was also a significant number of Cossack

units. Generals from the White Army—KRASNOV, NAUMENKO, and SHKURO—were brought in to lead the formation of these units.

These units were named as follows: Russians—RLA (Russian Liberation Army), Ukrainians—ULF (Ukrainian Liberation Force), the Cossacks—DF (Don Force), TF (Terek Force), etc.[46] I do not know the numbers within these units, but General KÖSTRING told me that they were supposed to have as many as a million people. The indicated units were used by the Germans in battles against the Red Army, the English, and the Americans, and also served as security in France, Belgium, Holland, Italy, and other countries.

At that time I had no relation to the formation or use of these military units. After the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, HIMMLER, trying to use the Soviet POWs in the fight against the Red Army and possibly seeing in this a well-known way out of the difficult situation in which Germany found itself, began to demand insistently that I speed up the process of forming units of the Russian Liberation Army, and to this end offered us the military camps in Münsingen and Heuberg in December 1944. As a result, I was able to form two divisions. In Münsingen, we formed the first division, numbering up to 20,000 people, and the officers' school of up to one thousand.

The first regiment of this division was made up of personnel from the so-called Russian Liberation People's Army that had been disbanded by the Germans, headed by KAMINSKY,[47] whom the Germans shot for banditry and marauding at the end of 1944. In Heuberg, there were two divisions formed, which numbered up to 12 thousand people. In these same camps there were several construction battalions and one reserve brigade, totaling up to 5 thousand people. There was also the headquarters of the Russian Liberation Army, the head of which was Major General TRUKHIN, who conducted the formation of the units.

Thus, the total numbers of the units included in the Russian Liberation Army formed by me were up to 38 thousand people.

By the end of the war, we had managed to equip the first division with 100 heavy guns, 12 T-34 tanks, rifles and automatic rifles; the second division remain unarmed, seemingly because the Germans feared providing Russian POWs with such a large

quantity of weapons and wanted to use the first division to test how they would behave.

The former commander of the 189th Rifle Division of the Red Army, Colonel BUNYACHENKO, whom the Germans later gave the rank of Major General, was appointed commander of the first division. BUNYACHENKO served in the volunteer units with KÖSTRING before joining the division.

The former commander of the 350th Rifle Division of the Red Army, Colonel ZVEREV, whom the Germans later made a Major General, was appointed commander of the second division. ZVEREV was recruited in a POW camp and underwent training in courses at Dabendorf, where he caught the eye of TRUKHIN, who then brought him to me.

The commander of the third division was Major General SHAPOVALOV, former commander of the 7th Rifle Corps of the Red Army, who crossed over voluntarily to the Germans because he hated the Soviet regime and did not want to serve in the Red Army. From 1942, SHAPOVALOV served in German intelligence, and in 1944 he presented himself to me and offered his services.

The head of the officers' school was the former head of the Operational Division of the Headquarters of the 6th Army, Colonel MEANDROV, whom the Germans later made a Major General. MEANDROV came to us in early 1944 from Köstring and worked in propaganda with ZHILENKOV, as his deputy, and was later appointed by me to be the head of the officers' school.

The commander of the reserve brigade was a former commander of the Red Army, Colonel KOIDA,[48] recruited by us in one of the camps for military POWs.As the units of the 2nd division and the reserve brigade were being armed very slowly, I decided to speak to HIMMLER again.

QUESTION: When did you meet with HIMMLER for the second time?

ANSWER: As of January 1945, HIMMLER had taken command of the northwest group of German forces and was in his headquarters in the forest to the northeast of Berlin,[49] where he received me in the company of BERGER and Krüger. I reported to HIMMLER that the RLA units were being formed slowly, that we were receiving insignificant amounts of weapons, and that in spite of the difficult situation for German forces at the front, the RLA units were not being used in direct battles against the Red Army.

HIMMLER suggested that I immediately move the first division to the front in order to prove their loyalty to the German command in action; otherwise, HIMMLER said, it would be difficult for him [to plead their case] with HITLER, who did not trust the Russians and thus far had not allowed the full formation of the Russian Liberation Army to take place. HIMMLER also promised to speed up the arming of the second division. I further informed HIMMLER that his instruction about the unification of all nationalist organizations and using them under the leadership of the Committee for Liberation for a more active fight against the advancing Red Army could not be fulfilled due to obstacles put in place by ROSENBERG's ministry, which forbade the leaders of the Ukrainian, Belorussian, Georgian, Turkestani, and Azerbaijani nationalists to subordinate themselves to the influence of our committee. HIMMLER was upset at the actions of ROSENBERG and told me that it was necessary to wait for a bit until he could achieve the liquidation of the Eastern Ministry. BERGER, who was present at the time, noted that the Minister of Finance had already annulled credit for the Eastern Ministry from 1 February.

Speaking with HIMMLER that time, I noticed that due to the difficult situation at the front, HIMMLER was nervous and sought some way out of the situation that had been created, and for this reason he treated me as though I, VLASOV, could lighten the situation on the front with my actions against the Red Army. What's more, after I met with HIMMLER, then GORING, RIBBENTROP and GOEBBELS all wanted to meet with me.

QUESTION: And did you meet with GORING, RIBBENTROP, and GOEBBELS?

ANSWER: Yes, I did. GORING sent his representative, General ASCHENBRENNER, to me, who in 1927–28 in the USSR was first an instructor for the Lipetsk flight school[50] and later occupied the post of assistant to the German Military Attache for Aviation. ASCHENBRENNER, on meeting with me, told me that GORING had 100 thousand POWs occupied in servicing German aviation. Some of these prisoners were under the leadership of Colonel MALTSEV, former head of the sanatorium of the Civilian Air Fleet in Crimea, and were being prepared at training aerodromes in Marienbad and Eger for service in German aviation.

ASCHENBRENNER offered to give me MALTSEV and the prisoners he led to be under my chain of command. I expressed

agreement with this and ASCHENBRENNER organized a meeting for me with GORING to clarify the question of further formations in aviation units.

In our conversation, GORING asked me how the formation of the volunteer units from HIMMLER was going, and when I answered that we were just finishing the formation of the first division, GORING suggested that I take MALTSEV under my chain of command and said that the person with authority for aviation under me would be ASCHENBRENNER, with whom I was to solve all issues.

I had a meeting with RIBBENTROP at the end of January 1945, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in the presence of ministry advisor HILGER.

RIBBENTROP informed me that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was taking on the financing of the anti-Soviet activity of my committee, and at the same time expressed interest in whether I had been able to practically resolve the question of uniting the representatives of Russian emigrants.

When I answered affirmatively, RIBBENTROP said, as a kind of reproach, that the committee had a policy of creating a single, indivisible Russia. I told him that the committee was a temporary body uniting the anti-Soviet organizations for the fight against Bolshevism. We planned on taking up the question of building a state after the war. On this, RIBBENTROP asked me, as the future "leader of the Russian state," about my views on Western Ukraine and the Baltics, and whether they would be included in the future Russia.

It surprised me that, with the fall of Germany nearly upon us, Minister RIBBENTROP was discussing such questions as dividing up the territories of the Soviet Union with me, but I answered that insomuch as the Baltic republics had for the course of 20 years been outside of Russia, we would not consider them a part of its makeup. As for Western Ukraine, it differs very little from Eastern Ukraine, and that question would best be solved later.

GOEBBELS hurried to offer me help in the organization of propaganda against the Soviet Union, and for that reason, in February 1945, he invited ZHILENKOV and me to see him at the ministry. It is characteristic that GOEBBELS began the conversation with a question—why was German propaganda not having any success with the Russians? ZHILENKOV answered

that propaganda against the Soviet Union needed to come from Russians, and then it would be considered real. Learning from us that the committee did not have the means to engage in propaganda, GOEBBELS promised to task his deputy with providing us with practical help in that area.

QUESTION: And did you meet with HITLER?

ANSWER: No. According to Captain STRIKFELDT, representative of the Propaganda Division at the Headquarters of the Supreme Command of the German Army, HITLER hated Russians and did not want to meet with us, and I was therefore unable to arrange a reception with him.

In April 1945, with the advance of the Red Army, the situation in Berlin had become so difficult that many leaders of German government bodies left town. Our committee also evacuated to Karlsbad. On the way, many members of the committee ran away. To wit, Professor RUDNEV, a member of the presidium of the committee, found a car that he used to escape to Konstantz, which was located on the Swiss border. Committee member and White émigré SHLIPPE ran off to Vangen on the Swiss border.

By that time, the German defeat was completely obvious, and we—members of the committee—therefore began to search for a way out of the situation. TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, ZHILENKOV, and I came to the conclusion that in the event of our capture by Red Army units, we would all face the death penalty for our crimes against the Soviet regime, and we therefore considered the only way out to be to run to the English and the Americans.

For this purpose, a group of members of the committee was sent to Füssen, headed by MALYSHKIN and ZAKUTNY, who had orders from me to establish contact with the Anglo-American forces and agree the terms of surrender for RLA units and their leaders.Taking advantage of the fact that HIMMLER had thrown off command responsibility for the northeast group forces, I redeployed the first division, which had been located in the region of Berlin, where separate units were participating in battles against the Red Army on HIMMLER's orders, and sent them to the territory of Czechoslovakia, thinking that the Anglo-American forces would approach from that direction. I also intended to draw together the rest of the forces of the Russian Liberation Army there.

In addition, committee member and White émigré ZHEREBKOV had been sent somewhat earlier to Switzerland in order to get a feeling for what the Anglo-Americans thought of our committee.

Whether MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY and ZHEREBKOV managed to establish communications with the English or the Americans and come to an agreement with them, I do not know, since the Germans demanded that I depart with urgency for the first division of the RLA.

QUESTION: What did that have to do with?

ANSWER: When the first division arrived in Czechoslovakia, they began to fall apart under the influence of the local population and disarm the Germans, and in the beginning of May 1945, they had an armed conflict with the German forces in the region of Prague.

Due to this, the commander of the German army group, Field Marshal General Schörner, called me and demanded an explanation. I stated that I knew nothing of the actions of the division and that I would depart immediately to the location and get things in order. By the time I arrived to the division's location, Germany had capitulated.

Then I learned that the military unit received from GORING, numbering 4 thousand people under the command of MALTSEV together with the German representative General ASCHENBRENNER, had surrendered to the Americans. Having no news of the fate of TRUKHIN, his headquarters, the second division, or the reserve brigade (who had been sent to meet up with the first division), I ordered Commander BUNYACHENKO of the first division to head in the direction of the Anglo-American forces. In addition, I sent my adjutant Captain ANTONOV to the Americans in the region of Pilsen to clarify the conditions of the surrender of my forces. On his return, ANTONOV reported that the Americans proposed to disarm the division, and for the personnel to surrender to the Americans, the Czechoslovaks, or the Russians.

QUESTION: And you decided to surrender to the American forces?

ANSWER: Yes, when I had made my decision, I headed into the zone of the American forces, but in the region of Shlisselburg I was stopped by officers of the Red Army.

QUESTION: The testimony that you have given far from exhausts all your criminal activity against the Soviet regime. You will be interrogated on this again.

The transcript has been recorded from my words correctly and been read by me.
VLASOV

INTERROGATED BY:
HEAD OF THE INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"
Major General LEONOV
SECTION HEAD OF THE INVESTIVATIVE DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"
Major SOKOLOV[51]

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 2. L. 1–42. Original. Authenticated copy.

N° 1.3. Stenographic transcript of the face-to-face confrontation between the arrested parties A. A. Vlasov and D. Ye. Zakutny.

11 March, 1946
Stenograph.

TRANSCRIPT OF THE FACE-TO-FACE CONFRONTATION
between the arrested parties Andrei Andreevich VLASOV
and Dmitry Yefimovich ZAKUTNY

From 11 March, 1946
Began at 16:10

After recognizing one another, the arrested VLASOV and ZAKUTNY stated that they had been acquainted from May 1943 and that their relationship had been on good terms.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: When was the last time you saw ZAKUTNY?

ANSWER: I last met with ZAKUTNY in April 1945 in Füssen.

QUESTION TO ZAKUTNY: Do you remember the date of your last meeting with VLASOV?

ANSWER: Yes, it was 26 April, 1945.

QUESTION TO ZAKUTNY: What instructions did you receive from VLASOV at that meeting?

ANSWER: At the meeting in Füssen, VLASOV gave me identification written in English and French in which I was authorized to conduct talks with representatives of the American command.

QUESTION TO ZAKUTNY: What specifically were you to agree on with the Americans?

ANSWER: I was to inform the Americans that the RLA units would not fight against the American forces and agreed to capitulate to them.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Why did you send ZAKUTNY specifically to hold talks with the Americans?

ANSWER: MALYSHKIN and ZAKUTNY were left to conduct talks with the Americans in Füssen. The choice fell on them firstly because they were members of the presidium of CLPR and secondly because they both expressed a willingness to take on the mission of conducting the talks with the Americans.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: When did you decide to cross over to the Americans?

ANSWER: After the members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR) moved to Füssen, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, the later-arriving TRUKHIN, and I discussed the question of how we should act in light of the obvious defeat of Germany. We all came to the conclusion that we urgently needed to make contact with the Americans or the English and begin talks about the crossing-over of CLPR and the RLA to their side.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: You say that MALYSHKIN and ZAKUTNY were to negotiate with the Americans only about the terms of surrender, but did you really not give them any other instructions?

ANSWER: First of all, MALYSHKIN and ZAKUTNY were to establish communications with the command of the American forces and receive the Americans' agreement to take the committee and the RLA under their protection. I should admit that the members of the committee knew that my intention, after

crossing over to the Americans, was to continue fighting against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Did you personally tell ZAKUTNY this?

ANSWER: Yes, I said more than once in the presence of ZAKUTNY that after the committee crossed over to the Anglo-American forces' zone, we would continue the fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION TO ZAKUTNY: Can you confirm the testimony of VLASOV?

ANSWER: Yes, I confirm it. I remember this fact. Apart from myself and MALYSHKIN in Füssen, there were a number of other members of the committee, including MALYSHKIN's deputy, MOSKVITINOV, who was considered the Chair of the Science Council in the committee.[52] VLASOV directly suggested to him in my presence that we continue our anti-Soviet work after the arrival in Füssen of the American forces.

QUESTION TO ZAKUTNY: Do you know what VLASOV had in mind when giving the instruction to continue anti-Soviet work in the American zone of the occupation?

ANSWER: VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, and I, as well as other members of the committee, made plans to continue anti-Soviet activity, calculating that after the defeat of Germany, a new war would begin: Great Britain and the USA against the Soviet Union.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: On what did you base your instructions to the members of the committee to continue anti-Soviet activity in the American forces' zone?

ANSWER: I should say that, beginning in April 1945, when it became clear to me that the Germans would be broken, I began to try to convince the members of CLPR that an alliance between England, America, and the Soviet Union would not be long-lasting. I said directly that due to the strength of their unfriendly relationship toward the Soviet Union, the Americans would not only offer us shelter, but even give us the opportunity to continue the fight against the USSR.

COMMENT FROM ZAKUTNY: Do you remember, VLASOV, your intention to send me to Switzerland for talks with representatives from the International Red Cross?

VLASOV'S ANSWER: Yes, I remember. When we were still in Karlsbad, before the committee moved to Füssen, I had in mind

to begin negotiations with the English or Americans through the International Red Cross [53] on the subject of clarifying the possibility of the committee and the RLA crossing over to their side. I thought of sending ZAKUTNY, but then changed my mind, since MALYSHKIN had prepared the White émigré ZHEREBKOV for that trip.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: When, consequently, did you begin to prepare to cross over to the Americans?

ANSWER: I don't remember the exact date, but it was in Karlsbad.

QUESTION TO ZAKUTNY: Indicate the time when VLASOV began to attempt to make contact with the English and Americans.

ANSWER: I had that conversation one on one with VLASOV in the beginning of March 1945 in Karlsbad. I remember that VLASOV also said to me that two diplomats were to come with me, one of whom was supposedly an Estonian.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Do you confirm that as early as March 1945 you took measures to establish contact with the Americans?

ANSWER: Yes, I do confirm it.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Then tell us, who was supposed to travel to Switzerland with ZAKUTNY?

ANSWER: I should mention one thing. In March 1945, General ASCHENBRENNER, representative of the German intermediary headquarters, had begun, unbeknownst to the SS, to prepare for an escape to the Americans. He shared this with me and reported that some two diplomats were traveling to Switzerland from him. It became clear to me that it was not possible to count on the Germans, and therefore I arranged with ASCHENBRENNER that the committee also be given a responsible representative for the trip to Switzerland. When I spoke of this to ZAKUTNY, I did indeed mention the diplomats, meaning those representatives whom ASCHENBRENNER was supposed to send, whose names I do not know.

QUESTION TO BOTH: Do you have any questions for one another?

VLASOV'S ANSWER: I have no questions for ZAKUTNY.

ZAKUTNY'S ANSWER: I have no questions for VLASOV.

Face-to-face confrontation completed at 17:30

Our words were recorded correctly and read by us.
Vlasov Zakutny

FACE TO FACE CONFRONTATION CONDUCTED BY:
HEAD OF THE INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"
Lt. Col. Sokolov
DEPUTY OF THE INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"
Major Sedov

Stenographer
Dyakonova.

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 6. L. 4–7. Original.

N° 1.4. Transcript of the face-to-face confrontation between the arrested parties A. A. Vlasov and G. A. Zhilenkov.

28 May, 1946

TRANSCRIPT OF FACE-TO-FACE CONFRONTATION
between the arrested parties Andrei Andreevich VLASOV
and Georgi Nikolaevich ZHILENKOV
From 28 May, 1946
Face-to-face confrontation started at 14:00

After recognizing one another, the arrested VLASOV and ZHILENKOV stated that they have been acquainted since 1942 through joint traitorous service with the Germans and that their relationship had been on good terms.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: During the investigation process, you admitted that on assignment from German intelligence you conducted training for terrorist acts against the leaders of the All-Union Communist Party and the Soviet government. Who among your conspirators shared the view that it was acceptable to use terror to fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: On the question of using terror in the fight against the leaders of the party and the government, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, and I held exactly the same position: we accepted terror because we thought it to be the most dynamic means of fighting against the Soviet government.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: So VLASOV was as much a proponent of using terror in the fight against the Soviet regime [as the rest of you: Zhilenkov, Trukhin, and Malyshkin]. Do you so affirm?

ANSWER: I do affirm.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Do you admit that you are guilty of preparing terrorist acts against the leaders of the Soviet government?

ANSWER: No, I do not admit it. I was against the use of terror.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: When specifically did you and VLASOV discuss the question of the necessity of using terrorist means in fighting?

ANSWER: VLASOV and I discussed the question of terror in June 1943. The background is this. In April 1943, the Germans told White émigré IVANOV to form the so-called "guard strike brigade of the RLA," with the goal of using it in the ongoing fight against the Red Army.

IVANOV turned to myself and VLASOV, as the leaders of the Russian Committee, with a request to take part in the formation of a brigade.

After a conversation with IVANOV, VLASOV instructed me to go out to the region where they were forming the brigade and offer IVANOV practical help in the name of the Russian Committee.

In June 1943, when IVANOV and I had selected a brigade of about 500 men who were mostly taken from the punishment squads of GIL-RODIONOV, the Germans proposed that we make an action plan for the newly formed brigade. IVANOV and I then worked up a so-called "Plan for the Formation of a Guard Strike Brigade," which was presented to me during the investigation. A large part of that plan was dedicated to training for terrorist acts against the leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet government. When I was with IVANOV in Berlin, I told VLASOV of the contents of the plan I had put together, and VLASOV even responded positively to my draft.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: Where did your conversation with VLASOV take place?

ANSWER: In a separate room of the restaurant "Uncle Lesha" in Berlin. VLASOV, IVANOV, and I were present.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Do you confirm that you approved the plan put together by ZHILENKOV on terror?

ANSWER: I confirm that, in fact, in June 1943, during a meeting in the restaurant "Uncle Lesha" ZHILENKOV did report to me about the progress in the formation of the strike brigade, but I do not remember that ZHILENKOV touched on the preparation of terrorist acts.

ZHILENKOV'S COMMENT: VLASOV, I told you the contents of actions of the strike brigade, and the main point of that plan was activities to train terrorists. Consequently, it is impossible to deny that you knew of the true goals of the formation of the strike brigade.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: After your report to VLASOV on the progress of the preparation of terrorist cadres, did you continue your work in the brigade?

ANSWER: Yes, after meeting with VLASOV, IVANOV and I returned to the brigade.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: Consequently, VLASOV knew that you would continue to train terrorists?

ANSWER: VLASOV knew that I was going to the brigade to continue the same work.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Do you admit that you sanctioned ZHILENKOV to continue to prepare terrorist acts against the leaders of the All-Union Communist Party and the government?

ANSWER: I admit that I gave ZHILENKOV the instruction to continue with the formation of the brigade, but I said nothing in particular about terror.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: What other concrete facts can you use to confirm your statement that VLASOV personally took part in the preparation of terrorist acts against the leaders of the Soviet government?

ANSWER: We spoke several times about the necessity to organize disruptive work in the rear territory of the Soviet forces. As early as January 1943, when I met with VLASOV in Berlin, I showed him the plan for anti-Soviet work that BOYARSKY and I had put together, in which—along with other questions—there was mention of the need for the creation of a broad network of

intelligence units for action in the rear territory of the Soviet forces. VLASOV read that plan in my presence and approved it.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Do you confirm this?

ANSWER: I do not remember such a case.

ZHILENKOV'S COMMENT: I can remind you of the circumstances under which you were acquainted with the plan. It was in Viktoriastrasse, and ZYKOV, NOZHIN, and BLAGOVESCHENSKY were present. At that time, you said directly that BOYARSKY and I had taken the correct position and that the plan should be considered fully reasonable and deserving to be used in practical work.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV AND VLASOV: You are being presented with a plan for anti-Soviet work signed by ZHILENKOV and BOYARSKY. Is this the document you are speaking about?

ZHILENKOV'S ANSWER: I am speaking about exactly this plan.

VLASOV'S ANSWER: I confirm the testimony of ZHILENKOV. The plan presented to me I read and approved in 1943, including the part where it mentions the training of intelligence agents for action in the rear territory of the Soviet forces.

QUESTION TO ZHILENKOV: State other facts confirming the participation of VLASOV in the organization of destructive work in the rear territory of the Soviet forces.

ANSWER: After the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in November 1944, VLASOV gave a series of orders on the creation of intelligence schools under the leadership of CLPR, and of course it goes without saying that in these schools not only were agents being trained, but saboteurs and terrorists as well. As a result of the practical implementation of VLASOV's orders, a school was created under the leadership of IVANOV in Bratislava with personnel numbering up to 300 people, and then under the leadership of KALUGIN a school was created in the region of Marienbad (now Mariánské Lázně, Czechia) in which about 50 people underwent training, and in Berlin the head of the Security Division for the Committee, TENZEROV, conducted the training of spies and saboteurs in small groups.

VLASOV cannot deny his direct participation in this work, at the very least because he was with me in the intelligence school in

Marienbad for the graduation of the intelligence operatives. I can remind him of the circumstances of this trip. When I found out that VLASOV was planning to go to Marienbad, I strongly recommended that he not do that, since I thought that VLASOV, as the chair of CLPR, should not be traveling to visit spies and saboteurs. We had a fairly long argument on the subject.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: Can you confirm the testimony of ZHILENKOV?

ANSWER: I confirm it. After the creation of CLPR, I ordered TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, and ZHILENKOV to take charge of the intelligence schools that the Germans had given us. I do not deny that I was at the graduation of intelligence operatives in Marienbad together with ZHILENKOV and MALYSHKIN.

QUESTION TO BOTH: Do you have any questions for one another?

VLASOV'S ANSWER: I have no questions for ZHILENKOV.

ZHILENKOV'S ANSWER: I have no questions.

The face-to-face confrontation ended at 16:00

The transcript of the face-to-face confrontation was recorded from our words correctly and read by us

VLASOV ZHILEKOV

The face-to-face confrontation was conducted by:

HEAD OF THE THIRD DEPARTMENT OF THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY OF THE USSR

Lt. Col. SOKOLOV

ASSISTANT TO THE HEAD OF THE THIRD DEPARTMENT OF THE MAIN ADMINISTRATION OF THE MINISTRY OF STATE SECURITY OF THE USSR

Major KOVALENKO

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 6. L. 68–72. Original.

2. Transcripts of the interrogations of G. A. Zverev and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N°2.1. Transcript of the interrogation of G. A. Zverev.

25 May, 1945
INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested ZVEREV Grigori Aleksandrovich

ZVEREV G. A., born in 1900 in Voroshilovka (Donbass), Russian, citizen of the USSR, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1926, former commander of the 350th Rifle Division, former Colonel of the Red Army.

QUESTION: You were arrested in the uniform of the so-called Russian Liberation Army created by the Germans. When did you begin serving under the Germans?

ANSWER: I began service in the Russian Liberation Army in October 1943 during my time as a POW of the Germans.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances were you taken prisoner by the Germans?

ANSWER: On 23 March, 1943, the 350th Rifle Division, which I commanded, was in the region of Bezliudovka-Khoroshevo, Kharkov District, and ended up encircled by German forces. During the withdrawal from that encirclement during a night battle I was concussed and was taken by the Germans while unconscious. After capture, the Germans sent me to a camp for military POWs located in the Dnepropetrovsk prison.

QUESTION: What did the Germans interrogate you about?

ANSWER: I was interrogated in the Dnepropetrovsk camp by a sergeant major of the German army—I don't know his name—and he asked me my name, what position I held in the Red Army, and how I ended up a prisoner, and he wrote my answers in a form. No other questions were given and he did not ask me about anything else.

QUESTION: In which other camps for military POWs were you kept?

ANSWER: A few days after my capture, I was sent from the Dnepropetrovsk camp to an officers' camp located in Vladimir-Volynsk, and from there I was transferred 2 weeks later to the Chenstokhovsky camp. I spent several days at that camp and then

was transferred to a camp for military POWs in Limburg (Germany). In June 1943, I was freed from that camp.

QUESTION: How did you manage to be freed from that camp for military POWs?

ANSWER: In the camp they circulated a newspaper called Dawn [*Zarya*] from the Russian Committee. I wrote a letter to the editorial staff of that newspaper in which I asked them to help me get out of the camp, where the conditions were very difficult.

Soon after I sent the letter to the editorial staff of *Dawn*, I was freed from the camp and sent to courses for fascist propaganda in Dabendorf (Germany).

QUESTION: Consequently, you were freed from the camp at the cost of treason—did you enter into the service of the Germans?

ANSWER: Yes, I admit that.

QUESTION: What were these courses in Dabendorf?

ANSWER: In Dabendorf, the Russian Committee formed cadres for the future so-called Russian Liberation Army. In this camp, there were courses which prepared propagandists for work in the camps for military POWs and in units of the RLA. When I arrived in Dabendorf, there were about 400 people in the propaganda courses. Besides these courses, in Dabendorf there were two reserve officer companies from which, when necessary, officers were sent to Russian battalions operating in German units.

The head of the courses in Dabendorf was the traitor to the homeland and former Major General of the Red Army TRUKHIN.

The head of the academic unit for propaganda was former Colonel of the Red Army SPIRIDONOV.

The battalion commander was former Lt. Colonel VLASOV Boris.[54]

The company commanders of the courses were: Lt. Colonel MELESHKEVICH, Lt. Colonel ARKHIPOV, [55] Major PSHENICHNY, Major SADOVNIKOV, Major NIKIFOROV,[56] and Major KUSKOV.

Instructors for the propaganda courses were: former docent of one of the Leningrad institutes ZAITSEV and engineer SHTIFANOV.[57]

All individuals located in Dabendorf in the special camp wore the uniform of the RLA.

On arrival at Dabendorf, I had a conversation with TRUKHIN.

QUESTION: What did you talk with TRUKHIN about?

ANSWER: At the beginning of the conversation, TRUKHIN asked me who I was, where I had worked, what units I had commanded, how I had ended up in the camp, and also about the situation in the Soviet Union of late.

Once he was familiar with my biography, TRUKHIN said that I needed to wait a bit until a group of senior officers and command staff from the Red Army could be gathered in Dabendorf that would travel to the camps to work. TRUKHIN said that I would go with that group. That suited me, and I agreed to TRUKHIN's proposal.

In the rest of the conversation, in response to my question about what exactly the Russian Liberation Army was, TRUKHIN answered that much was said and written about that army, but in fact so far it did not exist. All that you see in Dabendorf, TRUKHIN said, that is all there is of the RLA, but we, TRUKHIN said, are not losing hope and soon we will create a real Russian Liberation Army. With that, our conversation ended. After the conversation with TRUKHIN, I was enlisted in the reserve officers' company.

QUESTION: Name the individuals who were in that company.

ANSWER: In the reserve company were: former Major Generals of the Red Army BOGDANOV, SEBASTYANOV,[58] and BLAGOVESCHENSKY, Colonels of the Red Army KOIDA, ANTONOV, DENISOV, TABANTSEV, and YAROPUT, [59] Lt. Colonels of the Red Army KORBUKOV, YERSHOV, LIUBIMTSEV, and VASILIEV, and Majors BOIKO and LEVANDOVSKY. I do not remember the names of the other individuals in the reserve officers' company.

QUESTION: Did former General VLASOV visit the courses at Dabendorf?

ANSWER: Yes, he did.

QUESTION: Did you meet with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I did.

QUESTION: What was the nature of your meeting with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I was called to see VLASOV together with Lt. Col. KOIDA. The meeting took place in VLASOV's apartment in one of the suburbs of Berlin—Dabendorf. VLASOV asked about our biographical information and then asked whether we knew him and what they were saying about him in the Soviet Union; he

asked about life and conditions in the Red Army. After that, VLASOV said, "The Russian Liberation Movement has still not been permitted and the Germans so far do not want to speak to me about this issue, but that does not mean that nothing will work out for us. You, VLASOV said, have come here in order to work among the military POWs, and that is a good thing. Work, figure it out, and then you will see what we need to do."

Further, during the course of the conversation, I asked VLASOV a question about what exactly the Russian Committee was. He answered that for now there was no committee, but there was only himself (VLASOV), MALYSHKIN, and ZHILENKOV, and as for the Russian Committee went, that was a future matter.

I also asked VLASOV what units the RLA had and what they were doing. VLASOV said, "There are many units of the Russian Liberation Army, but all these units are still located with the Germans. The time will come when they will all be transferred to my command." However, he was not doing anything about it, "the Germans would not recognize him," time passed, and, as VLASOV said, he waited.

Regarding the agenda set up for the "Russian Liberation Movement," VLASOV told us that there was no agenda; there were only the rough outlines made by himself (VLASOV), MALYSHKIN, and ZHILENKOV, and that an agenda would come only when the question of the creation of a true and real Russian Committee was resolved. With that, the conversation with VLASOV ended, and KOIDA and I returned to Dabendorf.

QUESTION: What did you do in Dabendorf?

ANSWER: In November 1943, BOGDANOV, SEVASTYANOV, TAVANTSEV, YERSHOV, ANTONOV, and I, as well as others, were sent by TRUKHIN to work in camps for military POWs. I was sent to a POW camp located in the Konoversk region (in the northern part of Germany).

QUESTION: What kind of work did you do among those POWs?

ANSWER: Traveling from camp to camp, I studied the condition of former military service members of the Red Army.

QUESTION: You not only studied the condition of the POWs, but also actively recruited them into the Russian Liberation Army, and likewise conducted pro-fascist agitation among the POWs. Tell us about that.

ANSWER: That work I began later. After my travels to the camps, I again spoke with VLASOV.

QUESTION: What did you speak about with VLASOV this time?

ANSWER: When I returned from the trips to the POW camps, I was with VLASOV and TAVANTSEV. The conversation was about the prospects for the Russian Liberation Movement and the formation of the RLA. To TAVANTSEV's question as to how things stood with the formation of the Russian Liberation Army, VLASOV said that things had never been so difficult for him in regard to this as they were now. The Germans, as before, did not want to talk about the main issues, and instead talked about small change. Thus, for example, VLASOV said, he could not manage to get a meeting with the leaders of the German government to ask permission for the creation of a true Russian Committee for the fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: When was this committee created?

ANSWER: A committee under the name of "Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia" was created by VLASOV in November 1944. VLASOV did this at the instruction of HIMMLER, who approved the makeup of the committee.

QUESTION: Name the individuals who were in the committee.

ANSWER: VLASOV was chair of the committee; ZHILENKOV, a former Lieutenant General of the Red Army; MALYSHKIN, a former Major General of the Red Army (secretary of the committee), Colonel MIANDROV [sic]; Colonel BUNYACHENKO; Colonel BOYARSKY; Major General SHAPOVALOV; White émigré POLOZOV;[60] White émigré and military ataman NAUMENKO; former docent of one of the Leningrad institutes ZAITSEV; construction engineer SHTIFANOV; White émigré PYATNITSKY; and White émigré ZHEREBKOB.

I do not know the names of the rest of the individuals who made up the committee.

QUESTION: Do you know how the makeup of the committee was determined?

ANSWER: At the time that people were being selected for the committee, I was in Norway, where I was working in camps for military POWs. Upon returning from my trip to Berlin, I found out that ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, and White émigrés

NAUMENKO, ZHEREBKOV, and PYATNITSKY had selected only those individuals who had made a name for themselves in the fight against Bolshevism for membership in the committee. The leaders of the committee's anti-Soviet activity were members of the presidium.

QUESTION: Who was in the presidium of the committee?

ANSWER: VLASOV was the chair of the presidium. The members were: ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, and, as a candidate, TRUKHIN. I do not know the names of the other individuals in the presidium.

After VLASOV created the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the committee published a manifesto in which it said that the CLPR was created to unite all Russian people and, in an alliance with the Germans, lead the fight against Bolshevism.

QUESTION: Who created the manifesto?

ANSWER: The manifesto was put together by ZHILENKOV. And he even did it twice. VLASOV disagreed with the first version of the manifesto and made ZHILENKOV redo it. VLASOV agreed with the second version of the manifesto, but MALYSHKIN disagreed with a number of points laid out in it. After getting the text approved by the Germans, it was confirmed at the first session of the committee and was published in November 1944. As soon as it was published, CLPR set to the formation of the Russian Liberation Army and the headquarters of this army.

QUESTION: From whom was the headquarters of the RLA formed?

ANSWER: TRUKHIN was appointed executive officer, and his deputy was BOYARSKY. The head of the Operations Division was Colonel NYRYANIN.[61] The head of the Formation Division was Colonel DENISOV, the head of the Personnel Division was Colonel POZDNYAKOV, the head of artillery was Major General BOGDANOV, the head of Army Supplies was Major General SEVASTYANOV, the head of the Battle Training Division was Colonel ASSBERG, and the Judge Advocate General was Major ARBENIN.

After the formation of the army headquarters, TRUKHIN created several commissions for the recruitment of volunteers for the RLA. One recruiting commission was led by Colonel

VASILIEV, the second by Major LEVANDOVSKY, and the third by Lt. Colonel ANANIN.[62]

These commissions traveled out to POW camps and recruited for the Russian Liberation Army. All those recruited were first sent by the commission to a reserve regiment which was deployed in Münsingen (Germany), and from there sent out into RLA units.

QUESTION: Did you also take part in the recruitment of POWs for the Russian Liberation Army?

ANSWER: When the Manifesto of the CLPR came out, I received an order from TRUKHIN to bring with me from the officers' camp people who had at one time submitted statements on voluntary service in the RLA. When I got that order, I went to the camp, selected 24 former officers of the Red Army and brought them with me from Norway to Germany. I do not remember their names.

At the same time, the formation of the first division of the RLA had begun from the headquarters. Colonel BUNYACHENKO was appointed commander of this division, and Colonel NIKOLAEV was executive officer.

QUESTION: Who was the first division formed from?

ANSWER: The first division of the RLA was mostly made up of people from KAMINSKY's volunteer brigade, or, as they called it, RONA—the Russian Liberation People's Army.

QUESTION: What do you know of KAMINSKY?

ANSWER: KAMINSKY was an engineer by training, and he worked before the war at some kind of sugar factory. In 1941, KAMINSKY remained in occupied territory and organized a unit of members of the police to fight against the partisans. By the beginning of 1943, there were around 15 thousand people in this unit, and due to the numbers it began to be called the Kaminsky Brigade. KAMINSKY said that the main goal of his brigade was to fight against Bolshevism and destroy the partisans. Due to this, anti-Soviet propaganda was spread intensively in the brigade by the brigade's own Propaganda Division. By the end of 1943, the number of people in the brigade had increased again and KAMINSKY announced that from now on it would no longer be a brigade, but the Russian Liberation People's Army.

The KAMINSKY Brigade had its own political agenda that called for a fight against the Soviet regime and the Bolsheviks. In 1943, KAMINSKY made an attempt to create the so-called

"Russian National-Socialist Workers' Party."[63] I do not know what he managed to do in that regard. From the beginning of its organization, the Kaminsky Brigade conducted active military operations against the partisans in the Bryansk region and the Bryansk forests. In 1944, KAMINSKY and his brigade took active part in quashing the Warsaw uprising. During the period of the creation of the committee, KAMINSKY was shot by the Germans in a firing squad, and his brigade was transferred to VLASOV's chain of command of VLASOV, with some of them used to make up the first division. During the formation of the first division, the officers of the Kaminsky Brigade were replaced and sent to the officers' academy of the RLA, and upon completion they were sent to other units of the RLA as non-commissioned officers and soldiers.

The formation of the first division of the RLA happened at a rapid tempo, and by February 1945, it was fully assembled in terms of both personnel and material supplies. In the end, this division numbered around 17 thousand soldiers and officers.

At the end of February 1945, on the occasion of the ceremonial closing of the formation of the division at the training camp in Münsingen, there was a parade of the units of the division observed by Vlasov and Generals KÖSTRING and ASCHENBRENNER from the German command, but I could not say what their service posts were. At the parade, first KÖSTRING and then VLASOV gave speeches before the units of the first division.

QUESTION: Were you present at the parade?

ANSWER: Yes, I was present.

QUESTION: What did VLASOV say in his speech?

ANSWER: In his speech, VLASOV stated that the formation of the so-called Russian Liberation Army had begun and if earlier there had only been talk of it, now, as he stated, we had a real armed force in the first division and the officers' training academy. VLASOV further thanked the German command for the help they offered in the formation of the division and assured KÖSTRING and ASCHENBRENNER that this division would be the foundation of the RLA and justify the Germans' trust in the fight against Bolshevism.

At the end of February 1945, I was tasked with the formation of the second division.

QUESTION: Who tasked you with the formation of the second division?

ANSWER: When I returned from Norway in December 1944, I reported to the headquarters of the RLA, which was at that time located in Dabendorf, near Berlin, in order to report to TRUKHIN on the results of the work I had done in the camps for military POWs. After the report, TRUKHIN asked me to stay in Berlin and await his further instructions.

In that same February 1945, TRUKHIN called me in and informed me that the committee was beginning the formation of the second division and that he had proposed me to VLASOV as a candidate for division commander. What VLASOV's decision would be, he did not know, but, said TRUKHIN, you think about this and the next time I call you in, tell me what you think, and for the time being work on putting together a battle training plan for units of the division.

Soon after that, TRUKHIN called me in for the second time and announced that VLASOV had been allowed to appoint me commander of the second division. When I received the appointment, on 21 February, 1945, I went to the training camp in Heuberg (southern Germany) and set to work on the formation of the division.

QUESTION: What did you talk about with VLASOV?

ANSWER: At the time of that meeting, VLASOV said that the situation on the front was stabilizing and stated that the enemy, meaning the Red Army, had "fizzled out," and that meant everything to us, since now "our time" was at hand. According to VLASOV, everything necessary was being done for the second division, and he proposed that it be fully formed by mid-April 1945. VLASOV further told me that after the formation of the second division, the formation of a third division and other units of the RLA would begin. The situation is not waiting for us, VLASOV said, and he proposed that I take all measures to speed the completion of the formation of the division.

By the beginning of April 1945, the second division was fully assembled from the personnel point of view and numbered some 13 thousand soldiers and officers. The enlisted personnel of the division were made up of the remains of the broken-up Russian battalions that had been operating in German units. The command personnel of the division were made up of former officers of the

Red Army who had arrived from the officers' training academy, the army reserves, and some from newly recruited POWs.

QUESTION: What units were included in the division that you assembled?

ANSWER: Once the division was formed, it was made up of the following units and sub-units: the 1651st Rifle Regiment, under Regimental Commander Colonel BARYSHEV; the 1652nd Rifle Regiment, under Regimental Commander Major ALEKSEEV; the 1653rd Rifle Regiment, under Regimental Commander Lt. Colonel GOLOVINKIN;[64] the 1650th Artillery Regiment, under Regimental Commander Colonel PETROV; the 1650th Supply Regiment, under Regimental Commander Major VLASOV; the Cossack division, commanded at first by Lt. Col. ZINOVIEV and later by Lt. Colonel NIKIFOROV; a communications battalion commanded by Lieutenant KUTEPA; a platoon of military police commanded by Warrant Officer BABETS; headquarters company commanded by Lieutenant MAKHNORYLO, [65] and the headquarters of the division, with the executive officer Colonel FUNTIKOV.[66]

QUESTION: What kind of weaponry did the second division have?

ANSWER: The division had not been materially equipped. In the division there were: 953 German rifles, 120 automatic rifles, 8 hand or fixed machine guns, 60 hand-held German machine guns and 150 thousand pieces of various ammunition. We had no other equipment in the division.

QUESTION: What other units were formed by VLASOV?

ANSWER: Besides the first and second division, under VLASOV's chain of command there were: the officer training academy, headed by Colonel MIANDROV; the reserve brigade, commanded by Colonel KOIDA; the construction battalion, whose commander I do not know; an anti-tank regiment, commanded by a White émigré, former Colonel of the Imperial Army SAKHAROV; and a group of pilots, headed by former Colonel of the Red Army MALTSEV.

In addition, in March 1945 the formation of the third division began, and Major General SHAPOVALOV was appointed commander.

Thus, in all, the RLA numbered around 50 thousand people.

After the completion of the formation of the second division, they began military battle training.

At the end of April 1945, I received an order from the headquarters in Münsingen, where the second division had recently been deployed, to move to the east and concentrate forces on the border of Germany with Czechoslovakia in the region of Kaplitz. To this region, on orders from the army headquarters, were due to arrive: the army headquarters, the officers' training academy, the reserve brigade, the army construction battalion, and also from the Prague region the first division, from Italy the Cossack corps, and from Serbia the Defense Corps.[67] In essence, all the forces that VLASOV controlled were to meet in the region of Kaplitz.

QUESTION: Why were the Vlasov units concentrating forces?

ANSWER: In the order from the army headquarters there was no indication of the purpose for which the indicated units were to gather in the region of Kaplitz, and I do not know anything about it.

QUESTION: What were the Cossack and Security Corps like?

ANSWER: TRUKHIN took on the direct leadership of the march and the transfer of forces of the southern group of the RLA, of which the second division was part, along with the reserve brigade, the officers' training academy, the construction battalion, and the army headquarters. On the march from Münsingen to Kaplitz in mid-April 1945, TRUKHIN informed me that there was a Cossack congress which ordered them to join the ranks of VLASOV's army. According to that decision, as TRUKHIN said, the Cossack corps headed by General von PANNWITZ, which had been operating in Yugoslavia against the partisans, was to arrive in the Kaplitz region and join up with the RLA units.[68]

This Cossack corps, as I know from the words of TRUKHIN and other individuals, was made up of Cossack émigrés, and also of Cossacks who had fled the USSR with the Germans. The corps numbered approximately 18 thousand people.

In that same conversation with TRUKHIN, he informed me that the Russian Security Corps, operating in Serbia, was being transferred into VLASOV's chain of command by the Germans, and that they, along with the Cossack corps, would soon be joining up with us.

I do not know exactly what that corps was comprised of, and TRUKHIN never told me any more about it.

As soon as the units of the southern group of the RLA had moved to the location of concentration of forces, contact with VLASOV was lost due to circumstances on the front. TRUKHIN tried more than once to reach him, but he could not manage to get through, and only just before the final point of concentration of forces in the region of Kaplitz (now Kaplice, Czechia) did I receive, through SHAPOVALOV, the order from VLASOV to immediately send the division to the north to join up with the first division. I did not execute this order.

QUESTION: Why?

ANSWER: I did not execute VLASOV's order only because I had decided to move to the east and surrender the division to the Red Army.

QUESTION: You are not telling the truth. It is known that you tried to go over to the Americans together with the division. Talk about that.

ANSWER: I am telling the truth, I had no such intentions. In the beginning of May 1945, TRUKHIN sent ASSBERG and POZDNYAKOV in the role of negotiators to the Americans for talks regarding the conditional surrender to them of the southern group of the RLA. During the talks, the Americans stated that if the RLA units came over to them, they would allow all officers to keep their personal weapons and for each company to have 10 rifles. The Americans also stated that they awaited an answer to their proposal by 6 o'clock on the morning of 7 May, 1945.

QUESTION: What answer did TRUKHIN give to the Americans' proposal?

ANSWER: TRUKHIN did not answer the Americans. After the return of the negotiators, ASSBERG and POZDNYAKOV, on 6 May, 1945, TRUKHIN, along with BOYARSKY and SHAPOVALOV, went out from the army headquarters to VLASOV and never returned. From that point on, the units of the southern group of the RLA acted independently, since communications with the leaders of the army had been permanently lost.

On 9 May, 1945, in the region where the division was located, an automobile containing American officers was stopped, and they were brought to me at the headquarters. In conversation, the Americans informed me that part of the RLA had come over to them, and they proposed that I do the same.

The Americans assured me that I would not be arrested by them, and I decided to go with them to the RLA units that were located with them. Upon arrival at the headquarters of the American division—I do not know which one—my automobile was taken away and the riflemen were disarmed, after which the commander of that division took me to an apartment, to MIANDROV. In MIANDROV's apartment were ASSBERG and NYRYANIN. In conversation with MIANDROV, he informed me that the army headquarters, the reserve brigade, the officers' training academy, the army officer reserve, and the aviation group headed by MALTSEV had crossed over to the side of the Americans. As MIANDROV stated, the Americans left all of the officers with their personal weapons and each company with 10 rifles, transport, and a significant amount of rations. What further fate awaited the participants of the RLA, he did not know, and he said that he would go to the commanding officer of the American army for further talks. ASSBERG and NYRYANIN, who were present for this conversation, recommended that I follow this example and hand the division over to the Americans.

QUESTION: What did you say to that?

ANSWER: I gave no answer to that suggestion. I stated that the division was on the march and when it gathered together, I would give an answer. With that, the conversation ended, and after that I was taken in an American car to the division headquarters. That same day, I gathered all my commanders in the headquarters. At the meeting, a decision was made to cross over to the side of the Red Army.

QUESTION: You are not telling the truth again. It is known that at the meeting of commanders of the units of the division, you gave the instruction to cross over to the Americans. That is how it was, was it not?

ANSWER: I am telling the truth: I never gave any such instruction. After that, when the meeting was over and the unit commanders had left, I remained in the headquarters with my adjutant and seven riflemen, having in mind to end my life in suicide after the departure of the units. On the night of 10 May, I discharged a shot into my right temple and lost consciousness. When I came to and wanted to call for my adjutant, a captain of the Red Army whose name I do not know, along with several Red Army soldiers, came in and arrested me.

Written accurately from my words and read by me. Zverev.

Interrogated by: Deputy Section Head of the Investigative Division of the Main Directorate "SMERSH"
Major SEDOV
Note on the last page: Read. Novikov. 12 December, 1945.

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 26. L. 32–39. Original.

N° 2.2. Transcript of the interrogation of G. A. Zverev.

1 February, 1946

INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested ZVEREV Grigorii Aleksandrovich

ZVEREV, G. A., Born in 1900 in Voroshilovsk (Donbass), Russian, citizen of the USSR, unfinished higher education, former member of the Communist Party from 1926, former commander of the 350th Rifle Division of the 3rd Tank Army of the Voronezh front, colonel.

QUESTION: You were taken in Czechoslovakia dressed in the uniform of the Russian Liberation Army created by the Germans. When did you enter the service of the Germans?

ANSWER: When I was arrested on 12 May, 1945, in the region of Linz, I was indeed dressed in the uniform of a Major General of the Russian Liberation Army, which I joined at the end of June 1943 when I was a prisoner in Germany.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances were you taken prisoner?

ANSWER: In March 1943, the 350th Rifle Division, which I commanded, was in the area of the towns of Bezliudovka and Khoroshevo, in Kharkov District, and ended up surrounded by German forces. On withdrawing from the encirclement, on 23 March, 1943, I surrendered to the Germans.

QUESTION: Which time that you were captured are you referring to, the first or the second?

ANSWER: In March 1943, I surrendered to the Germans for the second time.

QUESTION: When and under what circumstances did you end up a prisoner the first time?

ANSWER: I was taken prisoner by the Germans for the first time in August 1941, when I was the commanding officer of the 190th Rifle Division.

Operating in the area of Vysokoe (near Uman') as part of the 49th Corps of the 6th Army, I was encircled by enemy forces. The corps commander, Major General OGURTSOV, gave me the order to gather the remnants of all the units of the 49th Corps and try to exit the encirclement together with the units of the 6th and 12th Armies. This attempt was unsuccessful. At that time, while I was moving through the field with Division Commissar KOLADZE, we were unexpectedly captured by the Germans and taken prisoner.

QUESTION: How did you end up again in the service of the Red Army?

ANSWER: After imprisonment, I was sent to a camp for military POWs in Uman', where I remained for several days, and then I was sent by prisoner transport through Raigorodok to the town of Haisyn for further investigation in a camp for military POWs in the city of Vinnitsa.

Following a group of wounded soldiers, since I had a boil on my neck, on the advice of the regimental commander SHTANKO, I signed my name in the list as the Ukrainian SHEVCHENKO, Grigori Aleksandrovich, and as a Ukrainian I was then freed from the camp. After being freed, SHTANKO and I headed to the town of Belaya Tserkov', and then went further in the direction of the city of Cherkasy, crossed the Dnieper River and, not reaching the front lines, headed for the Bryansk forests.

In the region of the Degtyarny homestead, we crossed the front lines, but found ourselves in the area of Major General ALEKSANDROV, who was also fighting his way out of encirclement. From there I had to cross the front lines again in the region of Verkhovye (in the area of the city of Orel), where I found myself in the hands of a cleaner unit—I don't know the name of the commander—which was headed to the zone of the Orel UNKVD, which was in the city of Yelets, and then I was handed over to the Special Division of the Bryansk Front, where I stayed for some time and was sent to the Personnel Division of the People's Commissariat for Defense, where I received an appointment as commander of the 8th Semipalatinsky Division.

QUESTION: During your time as a prisoner, did the Germans interrogate you?

ANSWER: While I was a German prisoner, I underwent an interrogation in the city of Uman'. They asked me what kind of reinforcements there were on the Dnieper line and what preparations the Red Army were making for chemical war. I did not give any satisfactory answers to these questions since I did not possess the necessary information.

QUESTION: The second time you were captured, did the Germans interrogate you?

ANSWER: Yes, they did.

QUESTION: What testimony did you give?

ANSWER: On arrival in the POW camp in Dnepropetrovsk, a sergeant major of the German army interrogated me—I don't remember his name—and he asked me my full name, what position I held in the Red Army, my military rank, and under what circumstances I was taken prisoner, and on the basis of the answers, he filled out a form. I submitted testimony of a biographical nature truthfully, since I had been taken prisoner in the uniform of a colonel of the Red Army and the identification papers I had on me gave me away. A few days after the interrogation, I was sent from the POW camp in Dnepropetrovsk to a POW camp for officers in the city of Vladimir-Volynsk, from which I was taken after two weeks to the Chenstokhovsky camp. I remained in that camp for several days, and then was taken to a POW camp in the city of Limburg (Germany). At the end of July 1943, I was freed from that camp.

QUESTION: Why did they free you from the POW camp? Did you treasonously go over to the Germans?

ANSWER: Yes. While in the camp for POWs in Limburg, I had the opportunity to read the anti-Soviet newspaper Dawn [*Zarya*], which was distributed by the Germans among the POWs in the name of the so-called Russian Committee. This newspaper spread propaganda among the POWs, slandering the Soviet Union. The editor of the newspaper *Dawn* was former Major General of the Red Army MALYSHKIN. Upon finding this out, I wrote a letter to the editors of *Dawn* in which I asked them to help me get out of the camp. A month later, I was sent from the camp to Dabendorf (Germany), where there were individuals who had expressed a desire to serve under the Germans and were placed in propaganda courses for the RLA.

QUESTION: In the letter addressed to the newspaper *Dawn*, did you state your readiness to serve the Germans?

ANSWER: No, I mentioned nothing of that in the letter.

QUESTION: Not true. You are being given an excerpt of the testimony of the arrested MAKEYONOK A.T.:[69]

" … Located in Stalag 12a in June 1943, Colonel ZVEREV, Colonel KOIDA, and I wrote statements that were sharply counterrevolutionary in content and gave them to the camp translator, White émigré ZORIN. In these statements, we asked to be enlisted in the RLA in order to fight with weapons in our hands against the Soviet regime. Our request was granted, and on 3 August 1943, 6 other people and I were sent to Dabendorf to RLA propaganda courses."

Did you write a statement with such content?

ANSWER: I want to clarify my previous testimony regarding the circumstances of my release from the camp. I was in fact released from the camp only after I voiced agreement to joining the service of the RLA and processed the corresponding documents. This happened in Dabendorf in the second half of July 1943, after a conversation with Major General of the Red Army TRUKHIN. TRUKHIN proposed that I join the RLA, to which I agreed, after which I was freed from the camp.

QUESTION: How was your entrance into the ranks of the RLA processed?

ANSWER: I wrote a statement with anti-Soviet content for TRUKHIN, in which I asked to be accepted into the service of the RLA. After that, I was soon released from the camp and enlisted in the reserve officers' company of the RLA, which was located in Dabendorf. Similar statements were written by Colonel KOIDA and Lt. Colonel MAKEYONOK.

QUESTION: Explain in detail the content of your conversation with TRUKHIN.

ANSWER: At the beginning of the conversation, TRUKHIN asked me who I was, where and as whom I had worked before my imprisonment, what units I had commanded, how I had become a prisoner, and also about conditions in the Soviet Union of late. Once he was familiar with my biography, TRUKHIN proposed that I join the RLA, which I agreed to do.

To my question of what exactly the RLA was, TRUKHIN answered that much was said and written about the army, but in fact it had not been created yet, and all that you see in Dabendorf,

that is the RLA. But we have not lost hope, continued TRUKHIN, that soon we will create a larger army.

QUESTION: Do you know why the Germans formed the RLA?

ANSWER: Yes, I knew very well that the Russian Liberation Army was created by the Germans for armed conflict against the Soviet regime with the goal of overthrowing the existing structure in the USSR and implementing a new order.

QUESTION: Consequently, you were released from the camp by committing treason?

ANSWER: Yes, that is so. In joining the service of the RLA, I committed a crime against the Homeland.

QUESTION: Name the individuals who were in the officers' reserve company.

ANSWER: In the officers' reserve company, in addition to myself, there were former generals of the Red Army BOGDANOV, SEVASTYANOV, and BLAGOVESCHENSKY; colonels KOIDA, ANTONOV, DENISOV, TAVANTSEV, and YAROPUD; lieutenant colonels KORBUKOV, YERSHOV, LIUBIMTSEV, VASILIEV and MAKEYONOK; and majors BOIKO and LEVANDOVSKY. I don't remember the other names.

QUESTION: What exactly were the RLA propaganda courses in Dabendorf?

ANSWER: The courses prepared propagandists for work in camps for Soviet military POWs in RLA units, which existed at that time within German military units. The RLA propagandists conducted anti-Soviet agitation among the POWs, urging them to join the RLA and calling for cooperation with the Germans. When I arrived in Dabendorf, around 400 people were studying in these courses. The head of the courses was former Major General of the Red Army TRUKHIN, and the head of the academic section was former Colonel of the Red Army SPIRIDONOV.

All the personnel of the courses were put in a battalion, the commander of which was former Lt. Colonel of the Red Army, VLASOV Boris. The company commanders were: Lt. Colonel MELESHKEVICH, Major SADOVNIKOV, Lt. Colonel ARKHIPOV, Major PSHENICHNY, Major NIKIFOROV, and Major KUSKOV. The instructors of the propaganda courses were: former docent of one of the Leningrad institutes ZAITSEV and engineer SHTIFANOV.

In addition, in Dabendorf there were two reserve companies of officers in which the command staff of the officers of the RLA was formed, from which officers were sent as necessary to "Russian battalions" that were operating in German military units.

All individuals in Dabendorf, including myself, wore the uniform of the RLA.

QUESTION: Did VLASOV visit the courses at Dabendorf?

ANSWER: Yes, VLASOV sometimes visited these courses.

QUESTION: Did you personally meet with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I did.

QUESTION: What was the nature of your meeting with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I personally met with VLASOV three times. The first meeting took place in the beginning of July 1943, in VLASOV's apartment on the outskirts of Berlin. I was called to see him together with Lt. Colonel KOIDA. After learning the details of our biographies, VLASOV asked whether we knew him and what people were saying about him in the Soviet Union; he asked about life and conditions in the Red Army. Further, VLASOV said that so far the Germans had not allowed us to create an independent army, but that that did not mean that it would not be created in the future. VLASOV advised me to have a look at what kind of anti-Soviet work was being conducted among the POWs, and after that it would be clear what I should do.

I asked VLASOV what units the RLA currently had and what they were doing, to which he answered that there were many units of the RLA, that they were all located among the Germans, but the time would come that they would be joined together in our army.

QUESTION: When else did you meet with VLASOV?

ANSWER: My second meeting with VLASOV took place in February 1944 in his apartment, after my trip to the POW camps in the region of the city of Hannover. At this meeting TAVANTSEV, who had also just returned from a trip to POW camps, was present. TAVANTSEV asked VLASOV how things were going with the formation of the Russian Liberation Army, and VLASOV stated that the Germans, as before, would not give a concrete answer as to the main issues of the creation of a Russian army and would only talk about small changes, and that he, VLASOV, had still not managed to arrange a meeting with the

leaders of the German government. There were no other conversations during that meeting with VLASOV.

My third meeting with VLASOV happened at the beginning of March 1945, when I was tasked with forming a division of the RLA in the training camp in the town of Heuberg (Germany). During this meeting, VLASOV asked about the course of work on the formation of the division and hurried me in the matter, promising that the division would receive a full officer staff and would be provided with equipment and weapons.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet activity did you conduct while at Dabendorf?

ANSWER: Until November 1943, I was in the reserve, then I was enlisted in the inspector's group created at that time by TRUKHIN under the courses for propagandists at Dabendorf. The group was led by former Major General of the Red Army BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and his deputy was Major General BOGDANOV. The rest of the people who comprised that group were called inspectors, and they traveled out to POW camps and conducted anti-Soviet activities.

In the beginning I was sent to a POW camp located in Hannover district (in the northern part of Germany), where Major BOIKO went with me as an interpreter, and then I went twice to a camp in Norway. As an inspector of propaganda, I was given the assignment to check on the work of the RLA propagandists in the camps and offer them concrete, practical help on site. In addition, visiting the prison camps, I studied their material condition.

QUESTION: When you visited camps of Soviet POWs, you personally conducted anti-Soviet agitation among them. You are being read an excerpt from the testimony of the arrested S. R. PEREPECHAI.[70]

" … I first met ZVEREV in July 1944, when he arrived at the camp for military POWs on the island of Shtrafoz (Norway) as a propaganda inspector. While in the camp, ZVEREV gave a speech among the POWs that was of anti-Soviet nature … "

Why don't you tell us about this?

ANSWER: I admit that during my visit to the camps of military prisoners I conducted anti-Soviet agitation among them. In controlling the work of the propagandists, I met with the Soviet military prisoners, and in conversation with them, answering their questions about what the RLA was and what kind of goals it had, I repeated VLASOV's anti-Soviet directives from his articles

printed in the newspapers and magazines published by the Germans.

QUESTION: You testified that during your trips to Norway, you undertook inspections of the work of the propagandists, but did you yourself conduct any recruiting of prisoners into the RLA?

ANSWER: I made my first trip to Norway in 1944 with the goal of inspecting the work of the propagandists, but on the second trip, at the end of September 1944, I left for Norway with the assignment from TRUKHIN to bring back from there people from among the former officers of the Red Army who expressed a desire to join the service of the RLA.

QUESTION: When did you receive such an order from TRUKHIN?

ANSWER: I received this order in the first half of November 1944.

QUESTION: Explain in more detail the content of these instructions from TRUKHIN.

ANSWER: Through an intermediary, I received an instruction written personally by TRUKHIN that I, as the senior member of the group and knowing the conditions of the work in Norway, should arrange with the German administration in the camp for the recruitment of Soviet prisoners to serve in the RLA. TRUKHIN also reported that VLASOV had had a meeting with HIMMLER, and the question of the creation of the Russian Committee and the formation of the military groupings of the RLA had been decided affirmatively. At the same time, I received a written order from TRUKHIN, according to which, on completion of the work I had been given in recruiting prisoners to the RLA, I was to return to Germany. A separate packet was sent by an intermediary located with me in Norway to Colonel ANANIN. It was proposed to him that he take up the recruitment of Soviet prisoners directly, since he had been appointed head of the so-called recruitment commission.

QUESTION: Did you personally carry out the instruction of TRUKHIN in conducting recruitment work among the prisoners?

ANSWER: I did.

QUESTION: What specifically did you do?

ANSWER: On receiving the instruction from TRUKHIN, I traveled out from camp No. 303 (Lillehammer) to Oslo to the commanding officer of the camps for military prisoners in

Norway, Major General KLEMM. I informed KLEMM of the contents of the order I had received. KLEMM answered that he already knew about these undertakings through the German command lines. Further, I arranged with him the order for conducting the recruitment and that the direct recruitment would be conducted by the RLA propagandists who were already working in the POW camps, and also by ANANIN, with a number of individuals given to him for that purpose. To KLEMM's question of whether the propagandists knew of these activities, I answered that they would be appropriately instructed by me. With that, our conversation ended.

QUESTION: Who was present during your conversation with KLEMM?

ANSWER: During my conversation with KLEMM, Colonel ANANIN and my interpreter, Lieutenant AVTUSHO, were present.

QUESTION: How many people were recruited into the RLA during the time you were in Norway?

ANSWER: During the entire time I was in Norway, around 300 people were recruited into the service of the RLA from among the officers and enlisted personnel. All these individuals were gathered together in camp No. 303, and then, in the first half of December 1944, taken to Münsingen (Germany), where the formation of the first division of the RLA had begun.

QUESTION: When you were arrested, two German documents were taken from you: an order from the German command to conduct activities recruiting POWs into the service of the RLA and the contents of practical activities put together on the basis of that order in which your name is mentioned and there is a mention that copies of these documents were sent to you.

When did you receive these documents?

ANSWER: It is difficult to say when I received these documents, since I have not seen them personally, but the contents fully corresponds to the conversation that I had with Major General KLEMM, and all my work was conducted in view of the contents of these documents. Clearly, these documents were received by my translator AVTUSHKO, seeing as all correspondence in German passed through his hands.

QUESTION: Did you often visit Major General KLEMM?

ANSWER: I myself visited KLEMM only once, under the circumstances described above, but I was in his headquarters in

Oslo during each trip I made to Norway to receive permission to access the POW camps.

QUESTION: And why do you not mention your participation in the press conference in KLEMM's headquarters regarding the issuing of the Manifesto of CLPR?

ANSWER: At the end of November 1944, while in Oslo, I visited KLEMM's headquarters in order to receive permission for the departure for Germany to the chain of command of the RLA for POW MAKHNORYLO. While dealing with this issue at the headquarters, I learned of the issuing of the Manifesto of CLPR and familiarized myself with its contents, but there was no press conference for this.

QUESTION: You are being shown the testimony of the arrested PEREPECHAI S. F.:

" … Some time after 20 December, 1944, by order of the Germans, ZVEREV spoke at a press conference in Oslo for foreign correspondents. A summary of the conference was printed in one of the Norwegian newspapers. There was also a photograph of ZVEREV. Not knowing the language, I could not read what was written. However, from the words of a woman who lived with ZVEREV who stayed with him at the hotel, I know that at the press conference ZVEREV familiarized the correspondents with the anti-Soviet work that was being done by the participants of the RLA headed by VLASOV."

Do you confirm this testimony?

ANSWER: When I was at the headquarters in the office of the executive officer, he was sent a text of the manifesto, which we began to read together. As we were reading the manifesto, I was photographed several times by the Germans. Besides myself and the executive officer, present for this were: Colonel ANANIN, my interpreter AVTUSHKO, a German interpreter who worked at the headquarters, and a German with the rank of first lieutenant who ran the camp for POWs in the area of Oslo, but I do not know his name either. Obviously, the Germans placed the photos that were taken in the anti-Soviet newspapers that they published, but I never saw a copy.

QUESTION: When did you return to Germany?

ANSWER: In accordance with TRUKHIN's orders, I departed from Norway on the first transport in December 1944, together with a group of about 300 Soviet military POWs recruited for service in the RLA. Among the POWs were 24 imprisoned officers

taken personally by me at the order of TRUKHIN in one of the camps in the Oslo area. On arrival in Dabendorf (Germany), I presented myself to TRUKHIN, reported to him on the work I had done in Norway, and received from him more detailed information on the status of the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

QUESTION: What do you know of the creation of CLPR?

ANSWER: The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia was created on 14 November, 1944, after VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER. It included: VLASOV; ZHILENKOV, who was in charge of propaganda; MALYSHKIN, who was the secretary of the committee; TRUKHIN, the executive officer of the RLA; MEANDROV; BUNYACHENKO; BOYARSKY; SHAPOVALOV; POLOZOV; NAUMENKO; ZAITSEV; SHTIFANOV; PYATNITSKY; ZHERENKOV; and a number of others whose names I do not know.

At the CLPR session in Prague, a presidium was chosen that was headed by VLASOV. The members of the presidium were: ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, PYATNITSKY, and others whose names I do not remember. After the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, a manifesto was issued in its name, in which it was said that the committee had been created in order to unite all anti-Soviet organizations in the fight against Bolshevism in alliance with the Germans. In the manifesto, it was also announced that the armed forces for the implementation of the set goals would be the Russian Liberation Army.

QUESTION: How was personnel for the CLPR selected?

ANSWER: The committee included individuals who made a name for themselves in the fight against the Soviet regime. Selection of candidates for membership in CLPR was managed by VLASOV, ZAKUTNY, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, and also the White émigrés: NAUMENKO, ZHERENKOV, and PYATNITSKY.

QUESTION: Were you a member of CLPR?

ANSWER: No, I was not.

QUESTION: Not true, you are being shown the testimony of the arrested BUNYACHENKO S. K.

" … ZVEREV, like myself, was included in the makeup of the committee … at the order of VLASOV, all commanders of the first formations of the RLA were brought into the committee since they

fulfilled great and responsible work along the lines of anti-Soviet organization … ."

Are you telling the truth about your anti-Soviet activity?

ANSWER: I do not confirm the testimony of BUNYACHENKO, and I was not a member of CLPR.

QUESTION: Did you take part in the formation of armed units of CLPR?

ANSWER: Yes, immediately after the creation of CLPR, under the leadership of VLASOV, the formation of the Russian Liberation Army was begun. For this, a group was formed from among officers of the RLA located in reserve in Dabendorf for the recruitment of Soviet POWs. These groups further traveled among the camps, where they conducted recruitment. At that time I had been freed from work in the POW camps in connection with my participation in the formation of the RLA.

QUESTION: How were units of the RLA formed?

ANSWER: By that time (December 1944), a headquarters was formed for the RLA, led by TRUKHIN and his deputy BOYARSKY. The head of the first (operational) section was Colonel KORNIANI [71], of the formation section was Colonel DENISOV, personnel was Colonel POZDNYAKOV, head of artillery was Major General BOGDANOV, head of supply was Major General SEVASTYANOV, head of battle-readiness was ASSBERG, and Judge Advocate General was Major ARBENIN. Simultaneously with the formation of the army headquarters, the RLA's first division formation was begun, with BUNYACHENKO appointed commander and NIKOLAEV executive officer.

QUESTION: From whom was the first division of the RLA formed?

ANSWER: The first division of the RLA was largely made up of KAMINSKY's punishment brigade, or, as it was also called, RONA—the Russian Liberation People's Army. The history of the KAMINSKY brigade is such: in 1941, remaining in occupied territory, KAMINSKY organized a police unit to fight against the Soviet partisans. By the beginning of 1943, there were about 15 thousand people in this unit, and the unit was called a brigade.

KAMINSKY said that the main task of his brigade was to fight against Bolshevism and destroy the partisans. By the end of 1943, the numbers in the brigade had increased, and KAMINSKY announced that the brigade would be renamed the Russian Liberation People's Army. That same year, KAMINSKY made an

attempt to create a Russian National-Socialist Workers' Party, but I do not know what he managed to do in that regard.From the day of its organization, the KAMINSKY brigade conducted active military action against Soviet partisans in the area around Bryansk. In 1944, KAMINSKY and his battalion took active part in putting down the Warsaw uprising. In the period of the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, KAMINSKY was shot by the Germans for marauding, and his brigade was transferred to VLASOV's chain of command and went into the formation of the first division.

The formation of the first division happened at a rapid pace, and by February 1945, it was fully put together in terms of both personnel and material supplies. In the end, the first division numbered around 17 thousand officers and soldiers. At the end of February 1945, at the ceremonial conclusion of the formation of the division in the training camp in Münsingen, there was a parade of the units of the division that was received by VLASOV and Generals KÖSTRING and ASCHENBRENNER from the German command. At the parade, both KÖSTRING and VLASOV gave speeches.

QUESTION: Were you present at the parade?

ANSWER: Yes, I was.

QUESTION: What did General VLASOV say in his speech?

ANSWER: In his speech, VLASOV stated that the formation of the Russian Liberation Army had begun, and if earlier there had only been talk of this question, now, he stated, we had a real armed force in the first division and officers' training academy. Further, VLASOV thanked the German command for offering him trust and help and assured KÖSTRING and ASCHENBRENNER that this division would be the foundation of the RLA and justify the German command's trust in the fight against Bolshevism. In the beginning of March 1945, I was tasked with the formation of the second division of the RLA, and for this the Germans gave me the rank of Major General.

QUESTION: Who tasked you with the formation of the second division?

ANSWER: Returning from Norway in December 1944, I reported to the headquarters of the RLA, which was at that time located in Dabendorf, in order to inform TRUKHIN of the results of the work I had conducted in the POW camps. After my report, TRUKHIN proposed that I stay in Berlin and await his further

orders. In this same conversation, he informed me that he was beginning the formation of the second division and had proposed me to VLASOV as a candidate for the position of commanding officer of the division. He asked me to work on a plan for battle-training the units of the division until a concrete decision had been made.

At the end of February 1945, I was again called to see TRUKHIN, from whom I learned that I had been appointed the commander of the second division; I received my documents and left for Heuberg (Southern Germany), where I set to forming the division.

In the beginning of March 1945, I arrived in Heuberg with the German Generals KÖSTRING, ASCHENBRENNER, and VLASOV, and they wanted to know how the formation of the division was going. By the beginning of April 1945, I had assembled the entire personnel of the second division and it numbered around 13 thousand soldiers and officers.

QUESTION: From whom did you compose the second division?

ANSWER: I mostly composed the second division from former military service members of the Red Army who had previously served in the "Russian battalions" of the German army. From that contingent, I put together 5 battalions. I had previously put together the 6th battalion and other units of the division from individuals who had been selected out of the first division but then recruited again in the POW camps.

QUESTION: What units went into the division you formed?

ANSWER: Upon completion of the formation of the second division, the following units and sub-units were included:

1651st Rifle Regiment, commanded by Colonel BARYSHEV.

1652nd Rifle Regimental, commanded by Major ALEKSEEV.

1653rd Rifle Regiment, commanded by Lt. Colonel GOLOVINKIN.

1650th Artillery Regiment, commanded by Colonel PETROV.

1650th Supply Regiment, commanded by Major VLASOV.

The Cossack division, which was first commanded by Lt. Colonel ZINOVYEV and later by Lt. Colonel NIKIFOROV.

Communications battalion, commanded by Lieutenant KUTEPA.

Reserve battalion, commanded by Captain KURGANSKY.

Platoon of Military Police, commanded by Lieutenant MAKHNORYLO.

Division headquarters, with executive officer Colonel FUNTIKOV.

QUESTION: What weapons did the second division have?

ANSWER: The second division had not been materially equipped. In the division, there were: 953 German rifles, 120 automatic rifles, 8 hand-held and 4 stationary machine guns, 60 hand-held German machine guns, and 150 thousand assorted shells.

QUESTION: What other units were formed by VLASOV?

ANSWER: In addition to the first and second divisions, under VLASOV's command were:

the officers' training academy, headed by Colonel MEANDROV;

a reserve brigade, commanded by Colonel KOIDA;

a construction battalion, the name of the commander of which I do not remember;

an anti-tank regiment, commanded by the former Colonel of the White Army and White émigré SAKHAROV

and a group of pilots headed by Colonel MALTSEV.

In addition, in March 1945, the beginning of the formation of the third battalion got under way, with Major General SHAPOVALOV appointed commander.

QUESTION: What activities did you conduct as division commander of the RLA?

ANSWER: After the completion of the formation of the second division, I undertook the battle-preparedness training of personnel, and in particular conducted lessons on tactics with the unit commanders. In the first half of April 1945, I received the order from TRUKHIN to move my division from Münsingen to the region of Kaplitz (on the German border with Czechoslovakia). According to orders from the army headquarters, due to arrive to the same location were: the officers' training academy, the reserve brigade, the construction battalion, and also the first division from the area of Prague, the Cossack corps from Italy and the Russian Security Corps from Serbia, which had been formed by the Germans from White guard soldiers. Essentially, the entire armed forces of the RLA were to concentrate near Kaplitz.

QUESTION: What were the Cossack corps and the Russian Security Corps?

ANSWER: On the march from Münsingen to Kaplitz in the second half of April 1945, TRUKHIN informed me that there had been a special Cossack congress in Zagreb in which the Cossacks had decided to enter into VLASOV's army. In accord with that decision, TRUKHIN said, the Cossack corps headed by General von PANOVITZ that was operating in Yugoslavia against the local partisans, was to arrive in the region of Kaplitz and unite with the units of the RLA. The Cossack corps, according to the words of TRUKHIN, was made up of Cossack émigrés and Cossacks who had run away from the USSR with the Germans.At the same time, TRUKHIN informed me that the Russian Security Corps, which consisted of White émigrés and was operating in Serbia, was also being given to VLASOV's chain of command by the German command. TRUKHIN did not tell me what exactly this corps was.

As soon as the units of the southern group of RLA forces had moved into the place where we were to concentrate forces, we lost communication with VLASOV due to the difficult situation at the front for the Germans. TRUKHIN tried multiple times to establish contact with him, but without result, and only near the point of concentration of forces near Kaplitz did I receive VLASOV's order through SHAPOVALOV, according to which I was to immediately send the division to the north towards Prague to unite with the first division, which had in the beginning of March, under the command of Colonel BUNYACHENKO, been located in the area of Berlin, where one of its battalions and the artillery regiment had on VLASOV's orders taken part in battles against the Red Army. During battle, units of the division were broken away and the whole division moved to the south to the area around Prague. I did not carry out my order from VLASOV to unite with the first division.

On 9 May, 1945, in the area of Linz, I was apprehended by the Americans.

QUESTION: How did you end up in the American zone of occupation?

ANSWER: On 9 May, 1945, an American patrol appeared in the area of operations of the division, and an automobile with American officers was also apprehended and brought to me. In conversation, the American officers informed me that all the units

of the RLA had crossed over to them. I went with the Americans to their headquarters in order to confirm what had been said, but on arrival, my car was taken away and the riflemen accompanying me were disarmed. After that, I was taken to an apartment where the former head of the Security Division of CLPR MEANDROV was, along with the head of the battle-readiness section, ASSBERG, and the head of the operational section, KORNIANI. MEANDROV informed me that the headquarters of the RLA, the officers' training academy, the officer reserves, the aviation group, and the reserve brigade had crossed over to the Americans. According to MEANDROV's statement, the Americans had left the officers with their personal weapons and each company with 10 rifles, transportation, and a significant amount of supplies, but he did not know what the future fate of the participants of the RLA would be and wanted to see the commanding officer of the American army for clarification. Present for this conversation were ASSBERG and KORNIANI, who recommended following their example and handing the division over to the Americans.

QUESTION: What decision did you make?

ANSWER: I did not give an answer to the proposal; I stated that the division was on the march and when it had gathered in one place I would be able to give an answer. With that, our conversation ended and I left to return to my division headquarters. That same day, I gathered all the commanders in the headquarters to discuss the situation, and the majority of the personnel made the decision to cross over to the side of the Red Army.

QUESTION: And what decision did you personally make?

ANSWER: At the end of the meeting, I remained in the headquarters with my adjutant and several riflemen and decided not to cross over to the Red Army but to end my life with suicide. I intended to do this because I was afraid of the consequences for the crimes I had committed against the Soviet regime. On the night of 10 May, 1945, I fired a shot from my pistol into my right temple and lost consciousness. When I came to, a captain of the Red Army came into my room—I do not know his name—along with several Red Army soldiers, and they arrested me.

QUESTION: The investigation is aware that you had other intentions.

Female witness KOCHERYANTS, in an interrogation from 13 May, 1945, on this question testified:

" … .He (ZVEREV) told me that the best way out was to give his forces to the Americans, because if they landed in the hands of the Red Army, cruel payback awaited them, and therefore he independently decided to go with his forces to the Allies … ."

Do you confirm this testimony?

ANSWER: Yes, I confirm the testimony read to me from female witness KOCHERYANTS. I did indeed have a conversation with her about crossing over to the Americans.

QUESTION: When you were arrested, German awards were taken from you: the Iron Cross and two medals. When were you awarded these?

ANSWER: The Iron Cross and two medals taken from me on arrest did not belong to me. I was to give them to RLA members in the second division who had previously been awarded them. I should also state in this regard that in the conversations with KOCHERYANITS, when she asked to whom the German medals belonged, I told her that the cross and medals belonged to me.

The transcript was recorded accurately from my words and read by me. ZVEREV

Interrogated by: Investigator of the Main Directorate "SMERSH"
Major CHEREPKO

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. L. 144–164. Original.

3. Transcripts of the interrogations of S. K. Bunyachenko and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 3.1. Transcript of the interrogation of S. K. Bunyachenko.

31 January, 1946

Interrogation Transcript
of the arrested Bunyachenko Sergei Kuzmich

BUNYACHENKO S. K., born 1902 in Kursk District, peasant background, former member of the All-Union Communist Party, former commander of the 59th Rifle Brigade, Colonel.

QUESTION: On 14 May, 1945, American military forces in Germany handed you over to the command of the Soviet occupying forces. Tell us, how did you come to be with the Americans?

ANSWER: At the moment of Germany's capitulation, I was the commander of the first division of the so-called Russian Liberation Army and, not wanting to surrender to the Red Army, withdrew with my division to the southwest. Some eighty kilometers from Prague, I surrendered to the American forces. After I relinquished the division's armaments to the American command, the Americans handed my headquarters and me over to the Soviet occupying authorities on 14 May, 1945.

QUESTION: Why didn't you surrender to the Red Army?

ANSWER: While serving the Germans for an extended period of time, I fought against the Soviet forces and, supposing that I would be harshly punished for the crimes I had committed against the Soviet regime, I did not want to surrender to Red Army soldiers.

QUESTION: From what time were you in the service of the Germans?

ANSWER: I began service in the Russian Liberation Army in June 1943.

QUESTION: But your criminal activity against the Soviet regime began much earlier. Do you admit this?

ANSWER: Yes, as early as August 1942, while in the Red Army, I committed a military crime and was sentenced by the Military Tribunal of the Northern Army Group of the South[72] Caucasus Front to the firing squad.

QUESTION: What crimes were you tried for?

ANSWER: In August 1942, I was the commander of the 389th Rifle Division, which at that time was responsible for defenses on the Terek River. From the headquarters of the 9th Army,[73] under whose command my division was, there came an order that in the event of a withdrawal of Soviet forces, we were to detonate the railway at Mozdok-Chervlennaya. Not aware of the circumstances at the front, I set to the execution of the order right away and destroyed the rail line ahead of time, for which the Military

Tribunal of the North Army Group of the South Caucasus Front, on 2 September, 1942, sentenced me to the highest possible punishment, but that sentence was not carried out.

On 24 September, 1942, I was called to the Special Division of the NKVD of the North Army Group, where they read a decision to commute my sentence from [death by] firing squad to ten years in a corrective labor camp, from which I would be sent to the front and then sent to the personnel division. Brigade Commissar BORISOV, representative of the Main Administration of Personnel of the People's Commissariat of Defense of the USSR, having confirmed the commutation of my sentence, warned me that I needed to use the present opportunity to redeem myself before my Homeland. I, in turn, assured BORISOV that I would justify the trust placed in me.

QUESTION: In reality, did you not fulfill your promise and instead commit treason against the Soviet people?

ANSWER: After being freed from custody, I was appointed commander of the 59th separate rifle brigade. During the period from 26 to 30 October, 1942, in the region of Urukh-Erokko-Leksen, the brigade suffered a defeat due to my lack of attention to regulations. On 31 October of that year, the brigade received a battle command to retreat to a new line of defense in the area of Chikola-Digora. That order was not completed by me in time, and as a result the brigade reached the new line some three hours late, which allowed the enemy to get ahead of our unit and attack the brigade as we approached the indicated line of defense. Parts of the brigade began to retreat to the southwest, in the direction of Alagir. In the mountains, we met Major General SERGATSKOV, the commander of the 351st Rifle Division, and I was appointed by him commander of the so-called Eastern Group that numbered up to a division. On 15 December, 1942, I learned from a major who came from the headquarters of the Northern Group whose name I do not know that I was to be held legally responsible for the failure of the military operations of the 59th separate rifle brigade. Fearing being arrested again for the perpetration of a crime, I crossed over to the enemy on 17 December, 1942.

QUESTION: Becoming a traitor to the homeland, did you go further in your crimes and give the Germans secret information about the Red Army?

ANSWER: At the German headquarters, I was searched and the following things were taken from me: my Communist Party

membership card, my identification, and my service booklet. During the interrogation, conducted by a German officer of the rank of major together with an interpreter, I informed them of the information I knew about the anti-chemical protections of my unit, and of the number of weapons and ammunition. To the question put to me on the production of ammunition in the Soviet Union, I answered that as far as the quantity of production of artillery rounds I did not know any of the data, and as for the production of mines, there were none on the front and so their production had been increased. In addition, I informed the Germans about the political-moral condition of the enlisted soldiers in my chain of command, and I also spoke of the mission of the Eastern Group and its neighbors.

QUESTION: When did you begin armed conflict against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: Having betrayed my homeland, I firmly decided to join the ranks of the enemies of the Soviet regime and did not hesitate in the choice of method of fighting the Soviets. Therefore, in April 1943, while in the Kherson POW camp, I responded to VLASOV's call to be allowed to form the so-called Russian Liberation Army and through the commandant of the camp, I submitted the appropriate report.

QUESTION: What were the contents of your report?

ANSWER: In the report, I wrote that I had read General VLASOV's address on the formation of the RLA in the newspaper and my response to that call was that I was prepared to join VLASOV's army. At the end of the report, I requested that I be sent to General VLASOV's headquarters if the decision to accept me was a positive one.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet activity did you conduct upon joining the service of the RLA?

ANSWER: About two weeks after submitting my report, I was called to the chancellery of the camp, where an interpreter told me that my request to join the RLA had been approved and I would be sent to one of the RLA camps. After that, in April 1943, I arrived from Kherson to Lötzen (Eastern Prussia), where there was a special camp of the German headquarters for voluntary forces of General KÖSTRING, who was responsible for the formation of military units from POWs. Though the Germans were at that time popularizing VLASOV as the leader of the RLA,

in actuality he had no military units under him and KÖSTRING alone was responsible for the formation.

In Lötzen on 9 June, 1943, I was received by the head of the camp, former Lt. Colonel of the Red Army TARASOV, to whom I gave an oath of loyalty to Germany once I had confirmed my desire to serve in the RLA and conduct armed conflict against the Soviet Union. Two days later I was called to the chancellery of the camp and given documents for a trip to the headquarters of Cossack forces in Kirovograd. Upon arrival at the location of the Cossack headquarters, I was received by the head of the courses for officer training, Lt. Colonel of the German Army Tsesar, who appointed me instructor of tactics in the courses. These courses were used to retrain officers of the Cossacks and other anti-Soviet formations taking part in armed conflict against Red Army units.

I was conscientious in my service in the preparation of anti-Soviet troops for armed conflict against the Soviet Union, throwing all my experience and knowledge into it. While I was participating, 60 officers completed training for anti-Soviet formations. For execution in good faith of my responsibilities, the German command awarded me with a bronze medal, and in September 1943, at the order of the head of the courses, I was sent to Berlin.

QUESTION: What did your trip to Berlin stem from?

ANSWER: By the fall of 1943, units of the Russian Liberation Army were being transferred, at the order of the Germans, from the Soviet-German front to France for the defense of the Atlantic coast from the landing of the Anglo-American forces. Due to this, I was to go to Berlin and receive a new appointment in the headquarters of the RLA, but on the way I received instruction to head to Lötzen. On arrival in Lötzen, I met with TARASOV and received orders to go to the French city of Le Mans (Normandy), where I arrived in October 1943 and joined the chain of command of Major General of the German Army STOLBERG, who was leading the preparation of RLA battalions formed from Soviet POWs.

From December 1943, while in Le Mans, I held the post of communications officer between units of the RLA and STOLBERG's General Headquarters. During this period I conducted hands-on training with the officer corps and inspections of the RLA battalions. In addition, I taught officers about new equipment that was in the armament of the RLA

battalions. In March 1944, I traveled to Lötzen, where I selected 12 officers to teach in a school for non-commissioned officers in Kiukidan.

Under General STOLBERG, I also traveled more than once to the French coast of the Atlantic Ocean, where I conducted work on methods of training and administration of troops in the battalions of the RLA that were in the defenses there. By the time I arrived, the German command had experienced great difficulties in establishing contact between German units and the RLA battalions due to a lack of interpreters. I worked up a system of communications between the German units and the RLA battalions using a coded light signal table. In addition, I developed a method for controlling massive mortar fire and also for defensive battles at night.

I should say that the German command used my innovative activities to train their own units. The Germans valued my efforts and I received a second German medal.

In Le Mans in the spring of 1944, I met with imprisoned former brigade commissar and member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army ZHILENKOV, who had arrived to organize anti-Soviet propaganda in the RLA battalions. Up to that point, I had known of ZHILENKOV only through the anti-Soviet newspaper "For the Homeland" that was published by VLASOV's headquarters, where ZHILENKOV was listed as editor-in-chief, and also from his anti-Soviet speeches, which were printed in the newspapers.

I introduced myself to ZHILENKOV as communications officer of the RLA under the headquarters of General STOLBERG. I had a short conversation with ZHILENKOV, since he was in a hurry to get out to the battalions. During this conversation, I told him of the conditions in the RLA battalions, and also of my work as a communications officer of the RLA, and I asked him to contribute to the meeting with General VLASOV. Further, I asked ZHILENKOV where things stood with the formation of an anti-Soviet army, to which ZHILENKOV answered that General VLASOV was currently working with great energy on this issue. I expressed my concern that the Russian Liberation Army would only be formed by the end of the war of Germany with the Soviet Union and would not be able to do itself justice. ZHILENKOV calmed me, stating that Germany's opposition to the advancing activities of the Red Army were great and that they would not put

their arms down any time soon, so in that time we could manage to create an army of 3–4 million and join Germany against the Soviet Union. With that, our conversation ended. I asked him whether I might not join him in going out to the RLA battalions, since I wanted to discuss a number of other questions in greater detail, but he refused, saying there was no room in the vehicle.

At the end of June 1944, I received an order from the commanding officer of the "volunteer troops" operating on the Western Front, German Major General NIEDERMEIER,[74] to go to the front with a special assignment.

QUESTION: What exactly was this special assignment?

ANSWER: After the invasion of the Anglo-American forces in Normandy, the RLA battalions located in the 7th German Army were broken into small groups as a result of battles. The Germans tasked me with gathering them together, forming them into a battalion, and taking them to the Kiukidan training camp.

I tried to complete the assignment given to me as best I could, and as a result I was able to form three battalions from the broken units of the RLA and lead them to the Kiukidan training camp. For the work I completed in the name of the German commend I was awarded for the third time the Iron Cross of the second class, which was presented to me at the beginning of July 1944 by German Lt. Colonel KORETTI.

When I completed my assignment, I left for Paris, for the headquarters of General NIEDERMEIER, who at that time was away. Here I met with General MALYSHKIN, a former executive officer of the 19th Army who was VLASOV's representative to the German forces acting on the French coast of the Atlantic Ocean. Before this, I had known of MALYSHKIN from his anti-Soviet speeches, which were printed in the newspapers, and I saw him as a very visible person under VLASOV. I told MALYSHKIN of the work I had completed in collecting the remnants of the broken RLA battalions and of the condition of these battalions, pointing out that Russian soldiers were unable to do battle when led by German officers. He, in turn, told me that he had been in the RLA battalions on the northern coast of France, Belgium and Denmark, and underscored that in Denmark there were 6 RLA battalions with Russian command staff that could easily be used in the formation of a Russian army. On that note, our conversation ended.

About two days later on arriving in Paris, I met with General NIEDERMEIER and reported to him of the work completed. NIEDERMEIER congratulated me with a high award and when he heard my declaration of loyalty to the German command, he proposed that I go to Berlin, to General VLASOV's chain of command.

QUESTION: When did you meet with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I met with VLASOV in August 1944 in the Berlin suburb of Dabendorf, in the RLA headquarters. I reported to VLASOV on the situation on the Western Front, informing him that the German front was falling apart under the blows of the Anglo-American forces and that the German forces were fleeing France, and I also told him of the participation of the RLA battalions operating within the 7th German Army, and of my work in trying to gather them back together.

In addition, I told VLASOV my view on the need for the rapid formation of an anti-Soviet army, since the RLA units acting under the Germans were not able to be as effective in battle as they might otherwise have been. After hearing me out, VLASOV said that the formation of a "large Russian army" would begin in the near future, but supposedly he had still not conclusively agreed with the German government on this issue. Continuing our conversation, VLASOV underscored that though the Germans feared the formation of purely Russian units, they had no choice but to form them, since otherwise they would not be able to use the anti-Soviet formations they already had to the fullest extent. VLASOV also told me that he intended to create an anti-Soviet center to activate the fight against the Soviet regime, named the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

Vlasov expressed satisfaction with my work in collecting the remnants of the RLA battalions and assured me that he had heard from Generals ZHILENKOV and MALYSHKIN of my loyalty to the Germans and my efforts to create an anti-Soviet army for the fight against the Soviet Union. VLASOV stressed in particular that he would task me with the formation of "Russian" units. After that, VLASOV proposed that I go to the RLA propaganda school, which was deployed at that time in the Berlin suburb of Dabendorf, until the issue was finally resolved.

I was located at the school until October 1944, and I met the executive officer of the RLA, General TRUKHIN, under whose orders I put together the staff of an infantry division.

QUESTION: What do you know of TRUKHIN's anti-Soviet activity?

ANSWER: TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich, former head of operations of the headquarters of the Baltic Fleet, comes from an aristocratic family. I do not know when and how he became imprisoned by the Germans. TRUKHIN, while in the service of the RLA, was for a long time the head of the Dabendorf school for RLA propagandists; later, as the executive officer of the RLA headquarters and in close cooperation with the headquarters of the SS forces, he exhibited leadership in the formation of an anti-Soviet army and sending RLA units to the front to fight against Soviet forces. In conversations with officers, TRUKHIN expressed sharp hostility toward the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: What units of the RLA did you form?

ANSWER: At the end of October 1944, VLASOV called me from Dabendorf to Berlin and told me that the question of the formation of the Russian Liberation Army had been resolved by the Germans in a positive way, saying that even though he had not yet managed to issue an order on the formation of units, with the agreement of the German command he appointed me commander of the first division and then tasked me with its formation, expressing hope that I would succeed with the formation of the "first Russian union" and that my example would serve for the creation of other divisions. While giving general instructions on the formation of the division, VLASOV ordered me to create a propaganda apparatus and counterintelligence, though personnel for these bodies had not been predetermined.

I asked VLASOV where it was supposed the newly-formed Russian units would be put to use. To that, VLASOV answered that we had not declared war against the Anglo-Americans, and we did not plan to fight them from here; all of our formations of anti-Soviet forces would be used on the side of Germany only against the Soviet Union. VLASOV also added that in the event of a German defeat, the army we formed would play its role. I asked the question—in what way? To which he answered that you should understand one thing, that after the end of the war, it would be far out of the way for the Anglo-Americans to deal with the Soviet Union over European issues.

After this question, I left VLASOV to go to TRUKHIN, and upon receiving a number of instructions from him of a technical,

organizational matter concerning the formation of the division, I left for the military camp Münsingen, where I set to work on the formation of the division. On 8 November, 1944, I received news from General TRUKHIN that I had been included by VLASOV as a member of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the first session of which would take place in Prague, where I was supposed to arrive on 14 November, 1944. However, below the news statement was a note that due to my busy schedule with the formation of the division, I was allowed not to appear at the committee's session.

QUESTION: Were you at the committee's session?

ANSWER: I truly was busy with the formation of the division and did not go to the session.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a typed copy of a manifesto issued by the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia on 14 November, 1944. When did you sign this document?

ANSWER: I signed the manifesto at the second session of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia at the end of December 1944, in Berlin.

QUESTION: Who participated in putting together the manifesto?

ANSWER: In addition to VLASOV, the following people participated in putting together the manifesto: MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, and former commander of the 21st Rifle Corps ZAKUTNY. I was a witness to how, in October 1944 at VLASOV's apartment, ZAKUTNY, TRUKHIN, and ZHILENKOV discussed the various details of the manifesto before going to report to VLASOV.

The manifesto was an anti-Soviet document in which the situation in the Soviet Union was perverted and slander spread about the leaders of the party and the Soviet government. In addition, the manifesto contained the announcement of the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia to lead the fight against the Bolsheviks.

QUESTION: Name the individuals who were members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which was created at the instruction of the Germans.

ANSWER: The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia included: VLASOV; MALYSHKIN; ZHILENKOV; TRUKHIN; ZAKUTNY; Colonel BOYARSKY, who was former

commander of the 41st Rifle Division of the Red Army; Colonel MIANDROV, who was the former head of the operational section of the headquarters of the 6th Army; MUZYCHENKO, who was a former Soviet journalist who left the USSR with the Germans; General of the White Army BALABIN, who was the leader of the White Cossacks; Professor RUDNEV, who was a White émigré; Professor ANDREEV; White émigré ALEKSEEV; and a number of other individuals whom I do not remember. In total, the committee included some 60 members and candidates. I was also a member of the committee.

QUESTION: What was the organizational structure of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: At the committee's session on 14 November, 1944, a presidium was elected, including: VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and the White émigrés RUDNEV and BALABIN. The chair of the committee was VLASOV and the secretary was MALYSHKIN. In addition, several administrations were created under the committee: the military administration, led by TRUKHIN; propaganda, led by ZHILENKOV; civilian affairs, led by ZAKUTNY; financial administration, led by ANDREEV; and social help, led by ALEKSEEV.

QUESTION: What role did you play in the committee?

ANSWER: As a member of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, I conducted serious work in the formation and training of a division with which I then participated in battles against the Red Army. In addition, I signed the manifesto and was present at a session of the committee in Berlin in December 1944.

QUESTION: What issues were discussed at the committee's session in Berlin?

ANSWER: At the session, VLASOV gave a speech in which he reported about the anti-Soviet work completed by the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. In his report, VLASOV indicated that the manifesto issued by the committee had received positive feedback among the societies of western European countries and, supposedly, was met with empathy by the population of the Soviet Union. In his speech, VLASOV also told of the progress of the formation of RLA units and called for an active push in the fight against the Soviet government.

QUESTION: What methods were you to use to conduct the fight against the USSR?

ANSWER: The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which declared in its manifesto a fight against the Soviet Union and the overthrow of the existing order, placed primary emphasis on military strength—that is, on the creation of an "army." Besides this, VLASOV told me in a conversation in January 1945 in Münsingen that it would be impossible to overthrow the existing order in the Soviet Union without uniting all the anti-Soviet forces that existed in Germany and the Soviet rear territory. We, said VLASOV, should conduct appropriate propaganda on the territory of the Soviet Union, among the population and in the units of the Red Army, with the goal of drawing to our side those members of the population and military that are dissatisfied with the Soviet regime. For this, we should have a strong propaganda apparatus that is capable of conducting propaganda not only on this side, but primarily in the rear of the Red Army. With this goal, VLASOV created special propaganda platoons that were equipped with ampule firing guns for the distribution of agitational leaflets among Red Army units. Along with this, the Security Section of the committee, in contact with the German intelligence agencies, undertook the insertion of its agents into the Soviet rear territory.

QUESTION: How do you know that?

ANSWER: In early 1945, a Security Division worker, Major CHIKALIN, on the orders of the executive officer of the RLA, TRUKHIN, took 18 paratroopers and radio operators from the division which had been sent to Berlin. When I asked TRUKHIN where the people from my division had gone, he answered that it was a special assignment. In addition, VLASOV told me in conversation in the winter of 1945 that in the Soviet Union—in the Caucasus, Ukraine, and Belorussia—uprising movements had supposedly begun. To my question of how he knew about this, VLASOV answered that [he had heard it] from our people who had been inserted into the Red Army and had returned.

QUESTION: Did you give speeches explaining the goals and missions of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Yes. Just before the new year of 1945, at an evening organized to celebrate the arrival of RLA officers from Norway, I gave a speech of anti-Soviet nature in which I briefly

characterized the goals and missions of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and stated that under the leadership of VLASOV, who was now the High Commander of the Armed Forces of CLPR, a new Russian Liberation Army was being created, one that was called to lead the fight against Bolshevism. I called upon those officers present for my speech to unite in the fight with the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: You are being read testimony from former instructor of the RLA school PEREPECHAI S. F. from 31 May, 1945, on the fact that you, on 27 December, 1944, at a banquet in Münsingen gave a speech of an anti-Soviet nature among officers there in which, while describing the goals and missions of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, you called on them to fight against the Soviet Union. Do you confirm this testimony?

ANSWER: I do. I gave a speech among officers who had arrived as reinforcement to the first division of the RLA on 27 December, 1944.

QUESTION: Who was the first division of the RLA formed from?

ANSWER: The first division of the RLA was selected, and it included the entire punitive brigade of the SS that had previously been commanded by KAMINSKY. The majority of the KAMINSKY Brigade consisted of people who had taken active part in the fight against the partisans on the occupied territory of the Soviet Union and in putting down the Warsaw uprising in the summer of 1944. At the point at which the KAMINSKY Brigade was included in the division, it numbered around six thousand people. In addition to the personnel of the KAMINSKY Brigade, the division included up to 3 thousand people from the 30th Division of the SS and several battalions that had arrived from France. Approximately a thousand people were recruited from among Russian workers who had been forcibly taken to work in Germany, and around three thousand from among Soviet POWs kept in various camps. In particular, in my division there were officers recruited to the RLA in camps for military POWs in Norway, where that work was conducted by former colonel of the Red Army ZVEREV, later commander of the second division of the RLA.

QUESTION: What do you know of the treasonous activity of ZVEREV?

ANSWER: I first met ZVEREV at the end of December 1944 in the car of a train from Berlin to Münsingen. Of ZVEREV's past I know only that he was a former division commander of the Red Army. After the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and the beginning of the formation of a Russian Army, ZVEREV was appointed commander of the second division of the RLA and assembled it. ZVEREV, like myself, was included as a member of the committee—that I know from TRUKHIN, who said before coming to Münsingen in December 1944 that at VLASOV's orders all the commanders of the RLA formations were included in the committee, since they were doing great and responsible work along the lines of anti-Soviet organization.

In his convictions, ZVEREV had hostility for the Soviet Union, as evidenced by a letter with anti-Soviet calls sent by ZVEREV to me in the first part of 1945. The letter was personally written by ZVEREV, and in it he called on the personnel of the division to raise the sword against the Soviet system and assured us that in alliance with the Germans under VLASOV's leadership we would justify with honor the tasks that had been given us in the fight against the Red Army and that victory was assured. This letter was read aloud by the executive officer of my division, Lt. Colonel NIKOLAEV, at a New Year's party for officers of the division headquarters.

QUESTION: Where is this letter from ZVEREV?

ANSWER: The letter remained with executive officer NIKOLAEV and I do not know what he did with it.

QUESTION: Name the officers of the first division of the RLA.

ANSWER: The executive officer of the division was Lt. Col. NIKOLAEV, who was captured by the Germans in the area of Uman in 1941 and crossed over into their service, served as the commander of the 635th Battalion of the RLA in France, and then later became an instructor at the RLA officers' school in Altwarp (Pomerania). He joined the division in November 1944. He was awarded three medals by the Germans.

The first infantry regiment was commanded by Colonel ARKHIPOV Dmitry Andreevich, 53 years old, born in the city of Yalta, a White émigré, lived in France and worked as a taxi driver. In his convictions, he was starkly anti-Soviet. He was awarded two medals by the German command.

The commander of the second regiment was ARTEMYEV Vyacheslav,[75] though I do not remember his patronymic, a former major of the Red Army. Until the war he commanded a regiment of the NKVD; during the war he was the commander of a cavalry regiment; and he surrendered to imprisonment at the end of 1941. Before joining the regiment, he was at courses for RLA propagandists in Dabendorf and served as company commander, then joined the division in November 1944. He was awarded a silver medal by the Germans.

The third regiment was commanded by ALEKSANDROV-RYABTSEV, though I do not know his name and patronymic, former Major of the Red Army, commanding officer of a mechanized regiment, surrendered at the end of 1941. While a prisoner, he joined the service of the Germans, at first in the school for RLA propagandists, and in November 1944, he was moved to the division at the orders of VLASOV. ALEKSANDROV-RYABTSEV, fearing responsibility for the crimes he had committed against the Soviet regime, committed suicide on 12 May, 1945.

The commander of the fourth infantry regiment was SAKHAROV, whose name and patronymic I do not know, 32–35 years old, a White émigré, participated in the war in Spain on the side of Franco, for which he was presented several awards and medals by the Germans. In Germany's war against the USSR, SAKHAROV took part in the fight against the Red Army, for which he was presented with two or three awards by the Germans.

The commander of the artillery regiment was ZHUKOVSKY, Vasily Ivanovich,[76] born 1906 in the Kiev district, ethnically Ukrainian, former Major of the Red Army, ended up imprisoned in 1941, began service under the Germans in 1943. Until coming to the division, he commanded a company of officers, propagandists for the RLA in Dabendorf, gave information on the POWs, was inclined against the Germans.

At the end of 1943, on information given by ZHUKOVSKY, a group of prisoners planning to attempt an escape from Dabendorf were hung. ZHUKOVSKY was awarded two or three medals by the Germans for this traitorous activity.

The commander of the sapper battalion of the division was former Captain of the Red Army VOSKOBOINIKOV, whose name and patronymic I do not know, brother of the leader of the anti-

Soviet organization National-Socialist Labor Party of Russia, which existed in the KAMINSKY Brigade.

The commander of the intelligence battalion of the division was former Captain of the Red Army KOSTENKO, whose name and patronymic I do not know, born in Kiev, landed in the camps in 1942 or 1943. Before joining the division, he served in the KAMINSKY Brigade as commander of the so-called "guard battalion."[77]

In the division there was also a supply regiment commanded by former Captain of the Red Army TREGUBOV Petr, whose patronymic I do not remember, imprisoned since 1941. Before joining the division, he served in the German Army, and later he was put in a camp for military POWs for something he did, and from there he was brought to the division.

The commander of the reserve battalion of the division was former Lt. Colonel of the Red Army MAKSAKOV Petr Konstantinovich,[78] who served in the Red Army as an instructor in the "Shot" [*Vystrel*] courses and ended up imprisoned by the Germans in 1941. While a prisoner, he was held in a camp for military POWs in Norway until 1944. From that camp, he voluntarily joined the service of the Russian Liberation Army; he was awarded the Iron Cross of the second class by the Germans.

QUESTION: What activities did you conduct in the division in order to strengthen its preparedness for armed conflict with the Soviet forces?

ANSWER: As division commander, I took measures to prevent the intrusion into its ranks of Soviet intelligence officers who could have broken up the division, and also to cut off the influence of people who expressed sympathy for the Soviet regime, to which end, on the instructions of VLASOV, I created a counterintelligence body within the division. Along with counterintelligence work, I also created within the division a body of propagandists who conducted anti-Soviet activity among the personnel. I myself gave anti-Soviet speeches more than once before the soldiers and officers, calling on them to actively fight against the Soviet regime.

The counterintelligence apparatus of my division was headed by OLKHOVIK Pavel Sergeevich, a former petty officer of the Navy who served in the counterintelligence bodies of the Germans in 1941. I knew OLKHOVIK from previous work and from his enmity for the Soviet regime, and so during the

formation of the division, I asked VLASOV's headquarters to assign OLKHOVIK to me. OLKHOVIK set to work and received materials from the network of agent-informers that he created, reported to me that among the service members of the division there were some rumblings of anti-fascist feelings and intentions to cross over to the side of the Red Army, and submitted yet another proposal for strengthening counterintelligence work by increasing the number of counterintelligence officers. I approved OLKHOVIK's proposal and ordered him to work up a plan for counterintelligence for the division and select appropriate individuals. Soon, the counterintelligence apparatus known as "officers for special assignment" was assembled. These officers for special assignment were present in all units of my division. This counterintelligence apparatus answered directly to me. Through their agents, officers for special assignment uncovered individuals who expressed dissatisfaction with the Germans and sympathy for the Soviet regime. These individuals, on my instruction, were held accountable.

QUESTION: State more concretely, were those who expressed dissatisfaction with the Germans and intention to cross over to the side of the Red Army sent before a firing squad on your orders?

ANSWER: There were no incidents of a firing squad for those individuals expressing their dissatisfaction with the Germans and intention to cross over to the side of the Red Army. However, I should admit that there were cases when I gave orders to punish those individuals who expressed their sympathy towards the Soviet regime and who intended to cross over to the side of the Red Army.

Thus, for example, in January 1945, I sent one non-commissioned officer from the division to forced work in a German factory for expressing Soviet support. Soon after this, and also for expressing sympathy toward the Soviet Union, a court specially formed in the division found a soldier of the division guilty and sentenced him to three years in prison. On 10 April, 1945, a group of ten people who were planning to cross over to the Red Army, headed by Major POGROMSKY, was arrested. During interrogation, the head of the counterintelligence section of the division OLKHOVIK subjected POGROMSKY to beatings.

QUESTION: OLKHOVIK testified in interrogation that the orders to beat POGROMSKY came from you. Why are you hiding this?

ANSWER: I gave no such instructions on beating POGROMSKY in the interrogation. OLKHOVIK did this on his own initiative, and he reported it to me only after the fact.

QUESTION: What military actions did the first division of the RLA conduct against the Red Army?

ANSWER: In the beginning of March 1945, the division was mostly assembled and by that time numbered around twenty thousand people. For the successful assembly of the division, the German command awarded me a silver medal, and VLASOV, with the agreement of the Germans, appointed me to the rank of Major General of the RLA.

On 6 April, 1945, the division I had formed arrived at the front in the area of Liberoza station on the Oder River.

On 13 April, at the orders of General VLASOV, I assigned one battalion each from the 2nd and 3rd Rifle Regiments, an anti-tank unit, and an artillery regiment to participate in military operations against the Red Army. On orders from the German headquarters, these units fought against the Red Army on the Oder River.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a letter of VLASOV from 16 April 1945, in which VLASOV in the name of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and in his own name expresses gratitude to you and your personnel participating in an operation. What operation is he speaking of?

ANSWER: He is speaking of the military action that the division conducted against Red Army units on the Oder River on 13 April, 1945.[79]

QUESTION: In which other military operations against the Red Army did your division take part?

ANSWER: After the defeat of my units on the Oder River, I did not lead the division in battle against Red Army units again. During the advance of the Soviet forces on Berlin, I understood the inevitability of the German defeat and led my units into the territory of Czechoslovakia in order to later cross over to the side of the Anglo-American forces.

The transcript has been recorded accurately from my words and read by me.

Bunyachenko
Interrogated by: Sr. Investigator of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate for Counterintelligence "SMERSH"
Major Komarov

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. L. 118–137. Original.

4. Transcripts of the interrogations of F. I. Trukhin and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 4.1. Transcript of the interrogation of F. I. Trukhin.

9 October, 1945

Interrogation Transcript
of the arrested Trukhin Fyodor Ivanovich
from 9 October, 1945
Interrogation begun at 11:30

QUESTION: Do you know BUSHMANOV Nikolai Stepanovich?

ANSWER: Yes, I know BUSHMANOV Nikolai Stepanovich.

QUESTION: What do you know about BUSHMANOV?

ANSWER: I have known BUSHMANOV since 1936, when we were both in the Frunze Academy, when he was attending the academy and I was an instructor. Later, BUSHMANOV was the head of the Department of the History of the Civil War in the Frunze Academy.

In March 1943, I met up with BUSHMANOV in the courses for RLA propagandists in Dabendorf, where he was the assistant to the head of the courses in drilling formations. In conversation, BUSHMANOV told me that in the beginning of the war of Germany and the Soviet Union he was the head of operations for some army and during battles near Vyazma in 1941, he was taken prisoner by the Germans.

While imprisoned, BUSHMANOV betrayed his homeland and went into the service of the Germans, entering courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide, where he was the leader of one of

the academic groups and also conducted some instruction, and gave lectures on anti-Soviet themes in which he slandered the Soviet Union. I know that BUSHMANOV, together with former Major General MALYSHKIN and Captain ZINOVYEV, were the primary leaders of these courses and exercised great trust among the Germans.

Upon completion of the courses for propagandists at Wuhlheide, former members of the Red Army Captain PADUNOV, Lieutenant KRYLOV, Lieutenant ARSENYEV, and others told me that their anti-Soviet convictions had been formed as a result of BUSHMANOV's education in the propaganda courses of Wuhlheide.

In Dabendorf, I often conversed with BUSHMANOV about political issues. In these conversations, BUSHMANOV spoke sharply against the existing Soviet order. He talked of the need to fight the Bolshevik party and considered the creation of the Vlasov movement necessary for the fight against the Soviet regime.

BUSHMANOV always supported my anti-Soviet convictions, and I considered him a man of like mind. In Berlin, I introduced BUSHMANOV to one of the leaders of the White émigré organization NTSNP, one PAREMSKY, who had worked in the Eastern Ministry and with whom he often met later, though I do not know what the nature of those meetings was. In April-May 1943, I traveled to Berlin with BUSHMANOV several times to see former Major General of the Red Army ZAKUTNY, who was at that time working in the German propaganda agency "Jumneta."[80] In conversations between myself, ZAKUTNY, and BUSHMANOV, there were anti-Soviet expressions that led to the denouncement of the party leaders and the Soviet government. In June 1943, BUSHMANOV was arrested by the Germans.

QUESTION: What was BUSHMANOV arrested for?

ANSWER: In June 1943, while in Berlin, I met by chance with one of the leaders of the White émigré organization, the so-called "National Organization of Russian Youth," Doctor SERGEEV, who gave me a leaflet handwritten in pencil that called for foreign workers to rise up against the Germans. SERGEEV said that this leaflet had been passed by the head of the club in Dabendorf, Sr. Lieutenant CHICHVINOV to a certain White émigré for translation into French and Serbian. On returning to Dabendorf, I

reported about this leaflet to the head of courses, BLAGOVESCHENSKY.

By comparing the handwriting on the leaflet with that of the student and instructors of the courses for propagandists, BLAGOVESCHENSKY and I were able to determine that the handwriting of the leaflet corresponded to that of BUSHMANOV, and we suspected him of being the author. With these facts, BLAGOVESCHENSKY and I went to VLASOV in Berlin, where we reported our suspicions regarding BUSHMANOV's authorship of the leaflet.

Considering that the Germans' discovery of such leaflets would lead to the "Russian Liberation Movement" and the courses at Dabendorf not receiving full development and rather being immediately destroyed, VLASOV ordered us to hand over the leaflet and the material regarding our suspicions that BUSHMANOV was the author to the German representative in Dabendorf, Captain Strik-Strikfeld.

That same day, BLAGOVESCHENSKY was with Strik-Strikfeld and reported to him about this affair. The next day, BUSHMANOV and I were called to see Strik-Strikfeld. First BUSHMANOV was called into Strik-Strikfeld's office, and then after about 30 minutes, I was. In conversation, Strik-Strikfeld told me that BUSHMANOV had been arrested. Soon after this, I was called to the Abwehr, where I gave testimony about how I had received the leaflet and expressed my suspicions that BUSHMANOV was the author. At the same time as BUSHMANOV, CHICHVIKOV and other officers whose names I do not know were also arrested. After BUSHMANOV's arrest, I never met with him again and do not know anything of his fate.

The transcript was recorded accurately from my words and read by me.

Trukhin.

Interrogated by: Deputy Section Head of Investigation Division of the Main Directorate "SMERSH"

Major Sedov

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 15. L. 159–161. Copy. and L. 162–172. Original. Handwritten.

N° 4.2. Transcript of the interrogation of F. I. Trukhin.

30 January, 1946

Interrogation Transcript
of the arrested Trukhin Fyodor Ivanovich,
From 30 January, 1946

Trukhin, F. I., born 1896 in the town of Kostroma, Russian, non-party affiliated, from a family of large landowners, former officer of the Imperial Army, has higher education, in the Red Army since 1918, former deputy executive officer of the headquarters of the Northwest Front, Major General.

QUESTION: You state that you used to be a general of the Red Army, but nevertheless you were apprehended in the uniform of a German officer. When did you betray the Homeland?

ANSWER: On 27 June, 1941, on the order of the commanding officer of the Northwest Front, Colonel General KUZNETSOV,[81] I, accompanied by my adjutant, Sr. Lieutenant TIMOFEEV, went out to the region of Ponevezh to observe the retreating units of the front. On the road about 8 kilometers to the south of Jacobstadt, at the fork in the road, our automobile came under fire from a German armored vehicle: TIMOFEEV was killed and the driver, MUDROV, and I jumped out and hid in the rye field, but a short time later the German armored vehicle approached the place where we were hiding and I surrendered to their squad. MUDROV's fate is unknown to me, since I lost sight of him in the rye field.

QUESTION: You hid from MUDROV on purpose, as MUDROV testified during interrogation:

" … TRUKHIN ordered me to observe the enemy's armored vehicle and himself hid in the rye. After approximately 40–50 minutes, the armored vehicle left. I began to search for Major General TRUKHIN, but I could not find him … "

What do you say to that?

ANSWER: I was separated from MUDROV through no evil intent, but once I was alone, I decided that if I met the Germans, I would surrender to them. Therefore, when I saw the approaching armored vehicle, I threw aside my pistol, stood up and raised my hands and surrendered.

QUESTION: What reasons prompted you to surrender?

ANSWER: Ending up alone, I was cowardly. I didn't have the courage to shoot myself, and I was afraid of resisting the Germans since they would have killed me and I decided it was better to surrender than to be killed.

QUESTION: Was that all that prompted you to cross over to the enemy?

ANSWER: I come from a family of large landowners. Before the revolution, my father, TRUKHIN Ivan Alekseevich, had an estate in the Kostroma district the size of 700 desyatins [1,890 acres] and employed a lot of people. In 1919, my father's estate was nationalized and my father arrested.

In 1938, my brother TRUKHIN Sergei Ivanovich was also arrested for anti-Soviet activity. I naturally experienced dissatisfaction with the Soviet regime in connection with the repression of my relatives. In addition, I believed that they did not trust me because I had served in the Imperial Army. That last circumstance cemented my dissatisfaction with the Soviet regime, which undoubtedly influenced my decision to surrender, and later led me to openly fight the USSR.

QUESTION: But why are you not mentioning your anti-Soviet activity in an earlier period? When did you join the participants of an anti-Soviet conspiracy?

ANSWER: I did not participate in any anti-Soviet conspiracy.

QUESTION: You are being given an excerpt of the testimony of the arrested former commander of the 7th Rifle Division, STROMBACH:[82]

"Not very long after being accepted into the division in 1926, I began to wonder who among the higher-ups might take part in our counterrevolutionary organization.

… When I learned of TRUKHIN's anti-Soviet leanings after several conversations on the topic, I informed TRUKHIN that within the units of the Red Army there existed a military counterrevolutionary organization and that the goal of the organization was the overthrow of the Soviet regime by means of armed uprising and establishing a bourgeois republic. Judging by his reaction, my statement was not news to TRUKHIN, but he never said anything to the effect that he had known about it before. TRUKHIN agreed to take part in the military counterrevolutionary organization."

Do you confirm the testimony of SHTROMBAKH?

ANSWER: No, there were never any such conversations between myself and SHTROMBAKH.

QUESTION: Others we have arrested have revealed you as a conspirator. We submit an excerpt from the testimony of former assistant to the head of the Frunze Academy, PAVLOV Aleksandr Vasilyevich:

"I also pulled into the conspiracy TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich, colonel, former instructor at the Frunze Academy and attendee of the Academy of the General Headquarters. [83] TRUKHIN was known to me as a person dissatisfied with his position in the Red Army. Intending to recruit TRUKHIN, in 1936 I traveled with him on a military history trip, shared a room with him, and started a conversation about the need to organize for a fight against the government. TRUKHIN agreed with me."

Now will you tell the truth?

ANSWER: I do not deny that over a number of years I had anti-Soviet leanings, but I ask you to believe me that I went over to the path of fighting against the All-Union Communist Party and the Soviet regime only as a German prisoner.

QUESTION: What kind of enemy activity did you conduct against the party and the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: As a prisoner, in the very first interrogation at the headquarters of the German corps in Utena (Lithuanian SSR), where I was taken after being captured, I informed them that in the past I had been an officer in the Imperial Army and during my service in the Red Army I had graduated from the Frunze Academy of the General Headquarters. I indicated that before capture I had been the deputy chief of staff of the Northwest Front. I also informed the Germans that in the region of Ponevezh I had gone out on assignment from the commanding officer of the front for the leadership of retreating units.

On 30 June, 1941, I was sent to the camp for military POWs in the city of Stalupenen, from which I was transferred within a few days to the Hammelburg military POW camp.

In the Hammelburg camp, I was kept in a separate barracks with other generals of the Red Army, including the former head of the Naval Academy in Libava, Major General of Coastal Service BLAGOVESCHENSKY; former commander of a cavalry division, Major General ZYBIN; former commander of the 4th Rifle Corps, Major General YEGOROV;[84] and former commander of the 21st Rifle Corps, Major General ZAKUTNY. In conversations about

current events and perspectives on the war between Germany and the Soviet Union, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, ZYBIN, YEGOROV, ZAKUTNY, and I, generalizing the individual losses of the Soviet forces at the front, slanderously held that the Soviet government had not prepared the country for war and had conducted a policy not in the interests of the people, as a consequence of which the peasants and workers supposedly did not want to fight for the Soviet regime.

I should say that ZAKUTNY was the one to lead the anti-Soviet conversations most often and in the harshest ways. I had been acquainted with him since 1936, when we both arrived at the General Headquarters Academy. In conversations with ZAKUTNY, we criticized all the activities of the Soviet government, coming to the same opinion: that the Soviet regime had enslaved the Russian people. ZAKUTNY and I said that the introduction of the collective farm system had led to the complete impoverishment and starvation of the peasants and workers. Trying to back up this slanderous claim, ZAKUTNY stated that the Don, where he was born, had been flowering and the Soviet regime had brought it to complete ruin through collectivization. As if that were not enough, he said, the Soviet government had created such conditions for peasants on collective farms that they could not go to the cities and earn money to provide for their families, and therefore they were doomed to a hungry death.

The workers, said ZAKUTNY, were in no better a position, as they had had all rights to self-determination taken away from them. Supporting ZAKUTNY, I said that the implementation of collectivization reflected destructively on the prosperity of the entire population. ZAKUTNY and I also harshly blamed the Soviet government and its leaders for the supposedly incompetent conducting of foreign policy. I said that the leaders of the Soviet government, who were preoccupied only with staying in power, did not tackle the diplomatic issues and drew the Soviet Union into war. I alleged that the Soviet government had not prepared the country for war and now, when Germany was successfully moving to the East, the leaders of the Soviet government, in an attempt to remain in power, were driving millions of Russian people to the slaughter. On this, ZAKUTNY said that the Soviet government had never worried about the people and had never taken their interests into account, and in fact the opposite was true, that it had put down all kinds of uprisings and innovations,

and had imprisoned innocent people or shot them as conspirators at the slightest sign of discontent.

ZAKUTNY alleged that TUKHACHEVSKY, YAKIR,[85] and others were innocent when shot. If these people were alive today, he said, the Soviet Union would not have suffered such defeats in the war with Germany. Trying to prove that there was allegedly no conspiracy and that all the people arrested for participation in the conspiracy were honest people, ZAKUTNY gave the example that he was allegedly accused in 1937 of conspiracy and even removed from the All-Union Communist Party, but was then once again reinstated in the party. From all of this we drew the conclusion that the Soviet Union would be defeated in this war and the Soviet regime liquidated. My conversations with BLAGOVESCHENSKY, ZYBIN, and YEGOROV were of an analogous nature.

I remember that in one of the conversations, BLAGOVESCHENSKY harshly accused the Soviet government of supposedly becoming confused and unable to organize the leadership of active Red Army units, as a result of which many people died and even more were captured by the Germans. For this reason, according to his statement, the torpedo boat "Lenin" had been sunk in Libava long with other ships. YEGOROV and ZYBIN shared our anti-Soviet inclinations and spoke in turn about how they were in the camps due to the incorrect actions of the Soviet government in the war against Germany. During these anti-Soviet conversations, we became close to one another and made the decision to begin to fight against the Soviet regime. In October 1941, when the Germans offered each of us the opportunity to fill out a form where, in addition to biographical data, there was the question, "Are you willing to fight against the Soviet regime?," ZAKUTNY, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and I answered in the affirmative.

Soon after filling out the forms, ZAKUTNY informed me that while imprisoned he had met a former military lawyer of the 3rd rank, MALTSEV Semyon Aleksandrovich, who on instruction from the Germans in the Hammelburg camp had created an anti-Soviet organization called the Russian Labor People's Party (RLPP).[86] Along with this, ZAKUTNY said that he had familiarized himself with the program guidelines of this organization and considered it necessary to take active part in its activities. About three days after this announcement, the Germans

transferred ZAKUTNY to Berlin. Upon leaving the camp, he expressed his regret that he had not had time to personally introduce me to MALTSEV. "Well, no matter," he said. "I already spoke of you to MALTSEV and he will get in touch with you." Several days after ZAKUTNY's departure, in the first days of October 1941, MALTSEV did in fact come to see me and, after a short conversation about the mission of the Russian Labor People's Army, offered me the opportunity to join it.

QUESTION: And did you agree to this?

ANSWER: Yes. First I, then YEGOROV, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and ZYBIN joined the Russian Labor People's Party.

…QUESTION: What goals did this so-called Russian Labor People's Party have for itself?

ANSWER: The agenda of the RLPP was put together by MALTSEV and former artist of the Moscow Arts Theater SVERCHKOV Sergei Nikolaevich at the instruction of the Germans. It indicated that the goal of the Russian Labor People's Party was the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the establishment of a bourgeois order on the territory of the USSR. In November 1941, the agenda of the RLPP was published and distributed among the military POWs held in the Hammelburg camp, but in spite of the agitational work conducted there, an insignificant number of prisoners joined the organization. Then MALTSEV got clever and it was announced to the POWs that only through the RLPP would they have access to work outside of the camp. Such agitation had the due effect, since the prisoners of the camp were kept in very difficult conditions, and in order to have the opportunity to get out of the camp, they began to join the organization.

On joining the Russian Labor People's Party, each applicant gave a written statement with a form they filled out attached to it, one recommendation from a current member of the organization and an oath to conduct unceasing fight against the Soviet order. The statement applying for membership in the organization were looked over at meetings of the members of the organization and later confirmed by a committee on which both MALTSEV and SVERCHKOV sat.

QUESTION: The investigation is aware that you were also a leading member of this anti-Soviet organization. What treasonous activity did you conduct?

ANSWER: Soon after I joined the RLPP, MALTSEV proposed that I come into the committee, to which I agreed, and I became one of the leaders of the organization, taking active part in conducting anti-Soviet agitation among the military POWs held in the Hammelburg camp. I convinced them of the inevitability of the defeat of the Red Army, spread slander against the leaders of the Soviet government, and called on them to join the RLPP.

Along with this, considering that it was necessary to conduct the fight against the Soviet regime through an armed force than simply through agitation, and therefore that military issues should occupy a central place in the affairs of the RLPP, I worked up a proposition about the creation under the RLPP of a military section and a working plan for that section.

In these documents, in order to more actively fight the Soviet Union, I recommended the creation from among the members of the RLPP of separate groups to be inserted in the rear territory of the Soviets with the goal of working to break down the Red Army and for the organization of sabotage acts on their supply lines and communications.

In addition, in order to increase the numbers of German forces on the Eastern Front, I recommended transferring here part of the German forces located in France, Belgium, Holland and in the Balkans, replacing them with units of POWs.

QUESTION: You are being presented with the manuscripts "Condition of the Military Section of the Russian Labor People's Party" and "Thoughts on the Work of the Military Section." Are these the documents of which you speak?

ANSWER: Yes. The documents being presented to me were written by me and are draft versions that were later copied by me as final versions and, in November 1941, given through MALTSEV to the German command. However, soon after that I was transferred from the Hammelburg camp to Waal and never received an answer from the Germans.

…QUESTION: Why were you moved from the Hammelburg camp? The Germans obviously gave you more responsible work?

ANSWER: Yes, by the time I was moved to the camp at Waal, I had managed to recommend myself to the Germans for anti-Soviet work and was therefore used for more serious assignments. I was called to the Waal camp by a representative of the Eastern Ministry, Sturmführer SA FRENTZEL, a German, who was the leader of the camps for military POWs at Wustrau, Waal,

Zietenhorst, and Vudzets, which were under the Eastern Ministry led by ROSENBERG.

In conversation with me, FRENTZEL, convinced of my enmity toward the Soviet regime, stated that the German command proposed to organize a number of camps with the goal of preparing from among former service members of the Red Army workers for the civilian administration on occupied Soviet territory. FRENTZEL asked me if the German command could find individuals among the Russian POWs who would agree, after appropriate training, to work in German establishments in the occupied territory. I assured FRENTZEL that with appropriate anti-Soviet work up, such individuals could undoubtedly be found among the POWs, and to FRENTZEL's question of whether I was personally willing to work in these camps, I answered in the affirmative.

In February 1942, ZAKUTNY arrived at the Waal camp and told me that he had come from outside Berlin, where he, together with two former military engineers of the Red Army whose names I do not now remember, was working on an analysis of some kind of military archives of the Red Army taken by the Germans in occupied territory. ZAKUTNY was also appointed by the Germans for work in the Eastern Ministry.

On 15 March, 1942, ZAKUTNY and I were transferred to the camp at Wustrau, which was central to all the other camps of the Eastern Ministry. On the second day, ZAKUTNY went out to the camp Vudzets, where there was a concentration of military POWs of Ukrainian ethnicity, and I was called to the so-called acceptance commission, which was headed by military engineer of the second rank of the Red Army DELVIG Vladimir Svyatoslavovich, who graduated before the war from the Moscow Military-Engineering Academy. The members of the committee were White guard members of the anti-Soviet organization of the National-Labor Union of the New Generation: BRUNST Dmitry Viktorovich, REDLIKH Roman Nikolaevich, and TREGUBOV Yury Andreevich.

In conversation with me, DELVIG told me that the German command intended to appoint me to the position of commandant of the Ziethenhorst camp and asked if I agreed to accept that post. I answered in the affirmative and after filling out a special form, on 24 April, 1942, I moved to Ziethenhorst.

QUESTION: What traitorous work did you conduct among the POWs at Ziethenhorst?

ANSWER: At first I played the role of intermediary between the German command of the Ziethenhorst camp and the POWs, and saw that the camp schedule was kept to and order maintained, as had been implemented by the Germans. In addition, I was present at the lessons, after which I tried in individual conversations with the students to prove the rectitude of the slanderous fabrications said of the Soviet Union by the instructors—the White guard members BRUNST, REDLIKH, TREGUBOV, and YEVREINOV.

On 5 May, 1942, the Ziethenhorst camp was visited by a representative of the Eastern Ministry, the German LEIBBRANDT, [87] who in conversation with me and with ZAKUTNY, who had been brought here by this time, asked how best to use the Russian POWs in the fight against Bolshevism.

ZAKUTNY and I told LEIBBRANDT that it was necessary to ramp up anti-Soviet activity among the POWs, filling them with certainty of the Soviet Union's defeat, to try to improve the Germans' relations with them and on that basis begin the formation of the so-called "Russian Army" from POWs. I tried to prove that if Russians began fighting on the Eastern Front together with the German units, then it would inevitably hasten the break up of the Red Army, as many Red Army soldiers would understand that the interests of Russia and the Russian people were on this side of the front. Not limiting myself to my oral statement to LEIBBRANDT, after he departed from Ziethenhorst, I wrote a memorandum to the German command with an explanation of my opinion on the matter.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a memorandum dated May 1942. Is it this you are speaking of?

ANSWER: Yes. I gave a clean copy of this memorandum to FRENTZEL at the end of May 1942.

QUESTION: We know that in the first days of July 1942, you left Ziethenhorst for Berlin. Was this trip connected to the submission of the above-mentioned memorandum?

ANSWER: No. In the first days of July 1942, I was in Berlin in transit to the Warsaw intelligence school,[88] where I remained for two weeks.

QUESTION: What were you doing in the Warsaw intelligence school?

ANSWER: The Germans intended to use me in the Warsaw intelligence school as an instructor in preparing propagandists to be sent to the Soviet Union, but since I did not know anything of agent work, my activity during my two-week stay in the Warsaw intelligence school was limited to putting together three sets of notes for instructors on the organization of military intelligence. On 22 June, 1942, I returned again to Ziethenhorst to my previous position; on 1 September, 1942, I was freed from the camp, received a German passport, and was appointed by the Germans to be an instructor in that very camp.

QUESTION: What kind of lectures did you give?

ANSWER: I gave anti-Soviet lectures on the topics: The History of the National-Socialist Movement, The Fundamentals of National-Socialism, The Jewish Question, Governmental and Civil Structures of Germany, The Worker Question in Germany, Agriculture in Germany, Social Aid in Germany, The Family and Upbringing of the Youth in Germany, The History of Russia, Russia and Bolshevism, Ideological Pressure in the USSR, Land Policy of the Soviet Regime, The Worker Question and *Stakhanovschina*,[89] The Soviet Intelligentsia Culture; Family, Youth, Upbringing and Education in the USSR, The Fight Between the Regime and the Population, Foreign Policy of the USSR, and Jews in Russia.

All the lectures were of a sharply slanderous nature against the Soviet Union and in praise of fascism and its leaders. Through various kinds of slander against the leaders of the Soviet government and the All-Union Communist Party, I tried in every way possible to imbue my audience with a hatred for the Soviet order and its leaders, pushing them toward armed conflict against the USSR together with the Germans.

In November 1942, for my active anti-Soviet activity, the Germans promoted me to senior instructor. After that, in addition to the lectures, I began to lead the activity of instructors subordinate to me, giving them guidelines to intensify anti-Soviet activity among the attendees and recommending that in addition to the provided plan for anti-Soviet literature, they use literature from the National-Labor Union of the New Generation (NTSNP).

QUESTION: Were you a member of NTSNP?

ANSWER: I must admit that while I was in the Wustrau camp, I established a personal connection with the White Guard leader of the anti-Soviet organization, the National-Labor Union

of the New Generation, BAIDALAKOV Viktor Mikhailovich, and at his suggestion joined this anti-Soviet organization.

QUESTION: When did you meet BAIDALAKOV?

ANSWER: During joint work with the White guard members BRUNST, REDLIKH, and TREGUBOV, I found out that they were members of the National-Labor Union of the New Generation (RLPP), which was led by BAIDALAKOV. Interested in finding out more about this organization, I asked REDLIKH and BRUNST to introduce me to BAIDALAKOV. In October 1942, REDLIKH proposed that I go out with him to meet BAIDALAKOV in Berlin. It was there in Berlin at Nurembergstrasse 37, where REDLIKH took me, that I first met BAIDALAKOV.

At my meeting with BAIDALAKOV, one of the leaders of NTSNP, VERGUN Kirill Dmitrievich, was present. In conversation, I told BAIDALAKOV that though I had been a general of the Red Army in the past, I had great hostility for the Soviet regime and now stood with the anti-Soviet position and fought against that regime.

BAIDALAKOV in turn told me about himself—that he was in the ranks of the White Army and fought in the Civil War against the Soviet regime, then later emigrated abroad before the war between Germany and the Soviet Union to live in Yugoslavia, where he created the anti-Soviet organization National-Labor Union of the New Generation from White émigré youth in 1930, setting its goal as armed conflict against the Soviet regime and the creation in Russia of a new bourgeois order. According to BAIDALAKOV, until 1941, due to the lack of real possibilities for an armed advance against the Soviet Union, NTSNP fought against the Soviet regime by sending spies, saboteurs, and terrorists into the USSR. (BAIDALAKOV did not name any names.) When the war between Germany and the Soviet Union began, the leadership of NTSNP decided to establish contact with the Germans to work with them against the Soviet regime, and for this reason they moved from Yugoslavia to Berlin.

When I learned in the first meeting with BAIDALAKOV of the goals and missions that the organization he headed set for itself, I told hum of my decision to take part in the work of NTSNP, and both in my practical anti-Soviet activity in the Ziethenhorst camp and in my lectures I drew on the ideas of NTSNP and put great effort into distributing the organization's literature among the cadets.

In March 1943, I was transferred to the courses for propagandists organized by the Germans in Dabendorf.

QUESTION: What was behind your transfer to Dabendorf?

ANSWER: In March 1943, I found out from the newspaper Dawn [*Zarya*], which was published by the Germans for military POWs, that in the city of Smolensk the commanding officer of the Second Strike Force Army, VLASOV, had created the so-called Russian Committee, whose mission was the overthrow of the Soviet regime within the USSR, the signing of an honorable peace with Germany, and the creation of a new "Russian government."

At the same time, there was a call printed in the paper signed by VLASOV and the former executive officer of one of the armies, Major General of the Red Army MALYSHKIN Vasily Fyodorovich, to Russian POWs and Soviet citizens to unite with the Germans and begin to fight against Bolshevism.

At the same time, I found out from the former commander of one of the armies, Lieutenant General LUKIN, who was being held in the Ziethenhorst camp, that VLASOV and a captain of the Germany army, STRIKFELDT, had come to him in a car and invited him to take part in the creation of the Russian Committee, but LUKIN supposedly declined that proposal.

Wanting to meet VLASOV and, if the possibility presented itself, take part in the activity ofthe committee he had created, I began to look for a way to meet with him. I shared my intentions with BRUNST and other members of the White Guard who were working in the Ziethenhorst camp. In the beginning of February 1943, BRUNST informed me that in the near future there was to be a meeting at a private apartment in Berlin between VLASOV and BAIDALAKOV. I asked BRUNST to let me know the day of the meeting. Some time later, BRUNST invited me to go with him to Berlin, where I met with VLASOV.

QUESTION: Who besides you was present at the meeting between VLASOV and BAIDALAKOV?

ANSWER: Aside from myself, the meeting was attended by NTSNP members BRUNST, VERGUN, and KAZANTSEV Aleksandr Stepanovich, who was serving at that time in the propaganda section of the Eastern Ministry. At this meeting, VLASOV told those present of his intentions to create the Russian Committee, which was to unite the Russian POWs and Soviet citizens to fight against the Soviet order. VLASOV then expanded on his thought, [saying] that with the help of the German

command it would be possible to create a Russian army from the POWs, one that could act against Bolshevism. The main source of reserves for an armed advance against the Soviet Union, said VLASOV, should be the members of the Red Army that the committee should draw over to its side. BAIDALAKOV, VERGUN, and I all supported VLASOV in his undertakings. While saying goodbye to me, VLASOV expressed a desire to meet with me again.

Several days after that meeting with VLASOV, MALYSHKIN came to see me at the camp. I had known him since 1924, when we studied together at the Frunze Academy. In conversation with me, MALYSHKIN stated that he had come in order to propose that I work with VLASOV on the creation of the Russian Committee and the Russian Liberation Army. At the same time, MALYSHKIN told me of the goals of the committee, retelling me in essence what I had already heard from VLASOV. I asked MALYSHKIN to tell VLASOV in my name that I agreed to work with him.

Several days after MALYSHKIN left, I was called in by FRENZEL, who gave me travel papers to go to the propaganda section of the German Army Headquarters, the same place that VLASOV was working at that time.

On 25 March, 1943, I arrived in Berlin and presented myself at VLASOV's apartment, which was then at Viktoriastrasse 10, and received from him an offer to occupy the post of Head of Academics at the courses for propagandists in Dabendorf.

QUESTION: What exactly were these courses for propagandists in Dabendorf?

ANSWER: After VLASOV made the announcement at the end of 1942 of the creation of the Russian Committee, he began to try to get the Germans to agree to open some kind of courses where they could train POWs, who would then be able to conduct anti-Soviet work among the POWs and Soviet citizens living in the occupied territories, prompting them to join the RLA and the armed advance against the Soviet order.

As a result of this, in February 1943 the Germans allowed VLASOV to open a place in Dabendorf, which is approximately 30 kilometers to the south of Berlin, [that provided] courses for propagandists. The goal was to train propagandists who could, in their further work among the POWs and residents of the occupied Soviet territories, encourage volunteers to join the RLA and—in its

ranks, with weapons in their hands—fight against Red Army units.

The academic program for the courses was designed in light of these goals. Studies were conducted by lecture, independent work creating materials, and the organization of various papers on the topics covered. Lectures were given on the following topics: The History of Germany up to 1933 and Beyond, Life of the German Workers and Peasants, Nationalism and Internationalism, National Socialism and Bolshevism, The Jewish Question, England as the Historical Enemy of Russia, Current Conditions in the USSR and the Necessity of the Death of the Soviet Regime, Bolshevism as the Enemy of the Russian People, Jews in the USSR, The Evolution of Bolshevism, The Foundation of the Russian Liberation Movement, The Role of Propaganda and Its Goals, and Methods of Work for the Propagandist. All lectures were presented in a harshly slanderous spirit toward the USSR, with an emphasis on the necessity to back the Russian Committee and take up arms with the Germans against the Soviet regime.

Lectures were given by POWs specially selected for this purpose: former graduate student of one of the Moscow biology institutes ZAITSEV Aleksandr Nikolaevich; former construction engineer for the Moscow-Volga canal STRIFANOV Nikolai Grigoryevich; former chemical engineer from one of the Kharkov factories ARSENEV Vasily Vladimirovich; former metallurgical engineer from the Kharkov automobile factory LIVENTSOV Nikolai Iosifovich; former senior lieutenant of the Baltic Fleet LAPIN Nikolai Fyodorovich; former construction engineer KRYLOV Konstantin Arkadyevich; former chemical engineer PODUNOV; former senior lieutenant of the Red Army SMOLYAKOV Mikhail Andreevich; former high school teacher from the city of Rostov LASHKOV Mikhail Ivanovich; former artist from the city of Ivanovo-Vosnesensk BOGOMOLOV Viktor Andreevich.

These instructors, in addition to theoretical training, would periodically go out with their groups on tours to Berlin to various industrial facilities and to the surroundings to the farms of kulaks; the instructors also led the practical studies of the course cadets. While enrolled in the courses, the POWs were broken up into companies that were commanded by former military service members of the Red Army—Colonel POZDNYAKOV, Major PSHENICHNY, SADOVNIKOV, KHITROV, KUSKOV,

ZAMYATIN, and NIKIFOROV—who oversaw the papers that repeated the anti-Soviet conditions put forth in the lectures.

QUESTION: From whom were the courses for propagandists in Dabendorf put together?

ANSWER: Former military service members of the Red Army were recruited into the courses, first and foremost those who, during their time in the camps, had to some degree shown themselves to be anti-Soviet. The selection of candidates for recruitment and the recruitment itself was conducted by the German commandant staff of the camp with the participation of propagandists working in the camps. In addition to recruitment in POW camps, participants of individual Russian battalions under the German forces in the Eastern and Western Fronts were also recruited. Prisoners of war with high school and higher education were admitted to the courses. All those who were recruited would, on arrival in Dabendorf, undergo an examination commission consisting of the company commanders and instructors. If a candidate, due to level of education or any other reason, was unable to pass the commission, he was returned to the camp or to the front.

Individuals who were enlisted in the courses were considered rank and file; only on completion of the courses did a qualifications commission, which consisted of the same people as the examination commission, assign them the rank that they had had during their service in the Red Army. On completion of the Dabendorf courses, at graduation, the students took an oath of loyalty to HITLER. Determination of assignment of those finishing the courses was handled by the German command in accordance with the needs in the various POW camps or battalions within the German forces located at the front. In addition, a large part of the propagandists were sent to so-called propaganda companies that conducted anti-Soviet work among the citizenry of the occupied Soviet districts.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet activity were you involved with while you were an instructor of the propaganda courses?

ANSWER: Until August 1943, I worked as the head of academics in the courses, and later, when VLASOV appointed former Major General of the Red Army BLAGOVESCHENSKY, who was the overall head of the courses, as the leader of the so-called inspectorate, whose duties included the inspection of propaganda work by traveling out to places, I was appointed as

head of the courses. I should admit that I played a large role in training anti-Soviet cadres both in the period when I was head of academics and then as overall head of the courses.

Through my active efforts during that period, I drew in many Russian people to the way of active anti-Soviet activity. I arranged the academic work in such a way that a great number of those POWs passing through Dabendorf developed a hatred for the Soviet order and the leaders of the Soviet government and who consequently conducted active anti-Soviet propaganda. Since the courses in Dabendorf were still only in the organizational stage at the time of my arrival, I as department head immediately undertook to organize the learning process: I put together an academic plan for the courses and a class schedule, chose topics for anti-Soviet lectures, and gathered instructors and gave them guidelines on working with the cadets. Later, trying to use the time I had as productively as possible to produce fascist propagandists, I worked up a new syllabus for each new group—a new academic plan—keeping in mind the current moment and level of education of those enrolled in the classes.

When I began in the position of head of academics, I introduced the idea of conducting methodology meetings with the instructors at which, based on what I know of methodology, I gave then anti-Soviet guidelines and indicated ways for more accessibly teaching students anti-Soviet conditions. With the goal of checking that these instructions were adhered to, I periodically visited classes, where I would correct the instructor's mistakes on the spot, creating an overview of the given lecture at the end of each class. In addition to this, I myself sometimes gave lectures of an anti-Soviet nature in which, heaping slander on the Soviet government, I was able to achieve the result of the students hating the Soviet order and its leaders.

In order to avoid having individuals in the courses who were undesirable to us in the political sense or poorly prepared in the general educational sense, I organized the examination commission; directly oversaw the development of notes for anti-Soviet lectures and brochures, through the use of which the cadets undertook independent training, and for publication of the notes; organized a typographical section in the Dabendorf courses; and put together reference material and visual aids, even finding a group of artists for this work.

QUESTION: You are being presented with the brochures "Fundamentals of National-Socialism," "The Ideological Yoke of the USSR," "The Foundations of the Russian Liberation Movement," and others. Are these brochures that you put together and organized their publication?

ANSWER: Yes. I corrected all these brochures and then organized their publication. I had a whole library of such brochures that I put together at Dabendorf, which was used not only by those enrolled in the courses but also by propagandists who had finished their studies but needed resources for their daily work.

When, in August 1943, I took on the post of head of the courses, I began to control the whole life and study of the courses. In particular, I confirmed and arranged with the Germans plans for syllabi and schedules; controlled the selection of cadets; confirmed the biographical description of all those who completed the courses, noting especially those who showed themselves to be especially active enemies of the Soviet regime; and presented candidates to the Germans for confirmation of military rank and their work assignments.

Each time, on the eve of the graduation ceremony, I gave a speech in which I called on them to actively fight the Soviet order. In addition, before the graduation, I would travel to see VLASOV and report to him the leanings and requests of the graduates. Giving a speech at the graduation, VLASOV touched on these issues, creating among the cadets the impression that he, in spite of his busy schedule, was deeply interested in their daily life. At the end of his speech, VLASOV called on the graduates of the courses in their practical activity to be indefatigable enemies of the Soviet regime. Sometimes, in addition to VLASOV, one of the Germans present at the ceremony would also give a speech expressing similar calls to arms.

QUESTION: How many groups of graduates were produced from the Dabendorf courses?

ANSWER: During my tenure, there were 12 groups of graduates, and then in October 1944 I moved to Berlin, to VLASOV, in order to participate in work on forming the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

QUESTION: How was this committee formed?

ANSWER: Beginning in March 1943, after VLASOV's announcement of the creation of the Russian Committee,

VLASOV tried in all possible ways to get the Germans to recognize the committee as a legal body uniting Russian POWs and Soviet citizens for the fight against the Soviet order, and in connection with this asked permission to form the Russian Liberation Army out of separate Russian battalions operating within the German armed forces on the front.

In June 1943, VLASOV met with the head of the Zossen Tank Officers' School, a German colonel who lived not far from Dabendorf, and tried to arrange a meeting with GOEBBELS through him, but nothing came of it. In July-August of that year, VLASOV tried to arrange a meeting with someone from among Hitler's representatives through the German writer DWINGER, traveling to his estate in the south of Bavaria for that purpose.

At the end of 1943, VLASOV asked the editor of the German journal *Aktsion*, WIDEMAN, to organize a meeting with HIMMLER and GOEBBELS for him. In that same period, MALYSHKIN and I sent a message to HITLER through the headquarters of Gross-admiral DENIZ in which we asked that HITLER receive VLASOV, but we did not get an answer.

In the beginning of 1944, VLASOV tried to arrange a meeting with the leader of the German government through Doctor LEY[90] and representatives of large German enterprises, but this was also without result. Only at the end of summer 1944 did VLASOV manage, through the leader of the Scorpion organization, Colonel of the SS D'ALQUEN, to receive HIMMLER's agreement to a meeting. It happened in the following way: in July 1944, on assignment from HIMMLER in the area of Lvov, the organization Scorpion was created, the mission of which being to distribute anti-Soviet literature in the rear territory of the Red Army to break down the military service members of the Red Army. For this reason, the Dabendorf courses, of which I was the head at the time, received an order to send 20 propagandists to Scorpion.

When I reported on this to VLASOV, I recommended that he send at the head of the group of propagandists someone close to him, in order to use Scorpion for his own purposes—for anti-Soviet propaganda within the Red Army. VLASOV agreed to send former member of the Military Council of one of the armies and division commissar ZHILENKOV, former commander of the 41st Rifle Division, Colonel BOYARSKY, and former member of the editorial staff of *Izvestia* ZYKOV, who by that time was working with VLASOV.

During the time he worked in Scorpion, ZHILENKOV became close to the leader of this organization, Colonel of the SS D'ALQUEN, who served directly under HIMMLER, and convinced him to give HIMMLER a report containing the request to receive VLASOV for talks.

On 18 or 19 July 1944, a message was received from HIMMLER's headquarters that a meeting between HIMMLER and VLASOV had been scheduled for 21 July, 1944. However, due to the attempt on HITLER's life on 20 July, the meeting between VLASOV and HIMMLER took place only on 19 September, 1944.

QUESTION: What was the nature of the meeting between VLASOV and HIMMLER?

ANSWER: According to VLASOV, HIMMLER received him in his headquarters somewhere in the region of Lötzen. The conversation between HIMMLER and VLASOV lasted, according to the latter, around four hours. VLASOV laid out his plans for the creation of the Russian Committee and the formation of the RLA. HIMMLER, according to VLASOV, agreed to the formation of a committee, but not one of a purely Russian makeup, rather a committee that would embrace all the ethnicities and peoples inhabiting the USSR. For this reason, the committee that VLASOV later formed was called the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. From that point on, all the other existing national committees under the Eastern Ministry (of the peoples of the Caucasus, Georgian, Armenian, Turkestani, Tatar, etc.) began to be considered second-tier, and in time a number of them were absorbed into the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

Along with the organization of the committee, HIMMLER also allowed the formation of RLA units from POWs and separate Russian battalions that had previously operated on the Eastern and Western fronts as part of the German armed forces.

QUESTION: With which other leaders of fascist German, aside from HIMMLER, did VLASOV meet?

ANSWER: Aside from HIMMLER, in the beginning of November 1944, VLASOV also met with former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Germany RIBBENTROP, who, according to VLASOV, received him in order to declare that the German government legally recognized the committee as the lawful governmental body of "New Russia" and for this reason a

representative from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was being appointed as a liaison to the committee.

In December 1944, VLASOV was received by the then-commanding officer of the German Air Force, GORING, regarding the formation within the RLA of an air force fleet and, lastly, in January 1945, VLASOV, together with ZHILENKOV, was at a reception with the former Minister of Propaganda of Germany, GOEBBELS.

GOEBBELS received ZHILENKOV and VLASOV in connection with their examination of the issue of the status of anti-Soviet propaganda work among POWs and already-formed units of the RLA. I should note that since these meetings happened after VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER, they were of the nature of becoming acquainted with the progress of the work to create the committee and organize of the RLA.

QUESTION: How much did you directly take part in the organization of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and the formation of the RLA?

ANSWER: On the second day after VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER, I was called to Berlin to VLASOV's apartment. where MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and ZAKUTNY already were. Informing us of the meeting with HIMMLER, VLASOV explained his immediate plan for our work: the formation of an independent committee, working up a manifesto that the committee should put out, and the creation of a schematic of the working structure of the committee's constituent agencies.

Literally on the second day after that meeting, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, and I, along with a number of officers from the propaganda courses and newspaper offices, set to the execution of these tasks.

The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR) was formed with the idea that it would include, where possible, representatives of the largest ethnic groups inhabiting the USSR and that there would be representation of the military, the intelligentsia, the workers, and White émigrés.

The list of members of the committee was put together directly by MALYSHKIN. I put forward military candidates for membership in the committee, and ZAKUTNY those from the intelligentsia. VLASOV and ZHILENKOV put forward a number of candidates from among the White émigrés. It was decided that the committee should not be so limited that individuals needed

for other work could not in the future be freed of their responsibilities. Initially, it was decided to have 40–50 members and candidates for membership in the committee. Once the candidates put forward for membership in the committee had been discussed by VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, ZAKUTNY, and me, the list was presented to HIMMLER for approval.

The text of the manifesto was put together by a number of people brought from the Dabendorf courses, edited by ZHILENKOV, and given a final polish by VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, and me. After finalizing the text of the manifesto, it too was given to HIMMLER for approval. Later, in accordance with instructions from HIMMLER, a number of additions and corrections were made in the manifesto, but I do not now remember exactly what they were.

Along with this work, in September-October VLASOV held meetings with those who emerged and later joined the committee. These meetings took place in Berlin in VLASOV's apartment and at my place, where between 30 and 80 people gathered at any one time. At the meeting, VLASOV presented an explanation of the main positions of the manifesto and a call for the revitalization of anti-Soviet activity. VLASOV said that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia that had been created should conduct vigorous work in reworking the POWs in an anti-Soviet spirit and raising them to the level of armed advance against the Soviet regime.

On 14 November, 1944, in one of the best buildings in the capital of Czechoslovakia—Prague—in the BURG castle,[91] the first organizational session of the committee was held, at which were present, in addition to those individuals who were members, around 200 people from among Russian POWs and White émigrés as guests. Among them was former division commander Colonel of the Red Army KOIDA, former head of the constructions section of the fortified sector and military engineer of the first rank YAROPUD, former executive officer of a cavalry regiment Major of the Red Army PSHENICHNY; and White émigrés head of the Russian All-Military Union in Germany, General LAMPE and General BISKUPSKY.

From the side of the Germans, there were about 200 people present as guests, among them: leader of the Protectorate of Czechia and Moravia FRANK, and representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany Obergruppenführer LORENS,

ROST, SS officers Oberführer Krüger and RIKHARD, and others whose names I do not remember.of the committee was conducted in a solemn yet celebratory manner. In front of the building in which the committee session took place, the Germans arranged an honor guard to greet VLASOV. During the session, photo- and video-journalists were present. After the session, a banquet was organized. All of this was done so that in the eyes of those present the committee would resemble the governing body of the future "New Russia."

The committee session was opened by the oldest member of the committee, White émigré Professor of Medicine RUDNEV. After the opening of the session, VLASOV gave a speech in which he announced that a Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia had been formed to organize the fight against the Soviet order, and he enumerated the tasks that the committee had set out and read the manifesto. In the manifesto, much was included to slander the Soviet order, the party leaders, and the government; the necessity of the fight against the Soviet order was mentioned.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a type-printed text of the manifesto. Is this the document you have in mind?

ANSWER: Yes, the manifesto presented to me is one of the copies of the manifesto that I indicated, multiple copies of which were later printed to be spread among the POWs and the residents of the occupied Soviet territories. After being read, this manifesto was signed by VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, myself, and a number of other individuals who were in the committee. After the signing, the manifesto was confirmed by the Presidium of the Committee for Liberation, which included VLASOV as chair and MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, myself, ZHILENKOV, RUDNEV, former Professor of Radiology from Kiev BOGATYRCHUK, former professor from one of the Moscow institutions of higher learning TSAGOL, jurist LEVITSKY, and White émigré and former Lieutenant General of the Cossack forces BALABIN as members.

In the conclusion, congratulatory speeches were made by the representatives of the German command, by the leader of the Protectorate of Czechia and Moravia FRANK, and by representative of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs Obergruppenführer LORENS. In their speeches, they congratulated the attendees with the creation of the committee

and announced that the committee and its armed forces[92] were allies with Germany in the fight against Bolshevism.

QUESTION: Name the members of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

ANSWER: In total, there were about 70 people included in the membership of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, among them: VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, myself, ZAKUTNY, BOYARSKY, former commander of a rifle division and colonel of the Red Army BUNYACHENKO, former corps executive officer and colonel of the Red Army MEANDROV, White émigré and former leader of the Bulgarian section of the Russian All-Military Union ABRAMOV, former Major General of the Cossack forces POLOZOV, journalist KAZANTSEV, colleagues of the Soviet scientific facilities former docent and mathematician of one of the Moscow institutes of higher learning TENZEROV, former professor and geologist from Ukraine STELMAKOV, professor and aviation specialist TATARINOV.

QUESTION: You will be interrogated about the other members of the committee separately. Now tell us, what administrative structures existed within the committee?

ANSWER: Under the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia the following were created: Propaganda Administration, Organizational Administration, the Administration for Civil Affairs, and the headquarters of the armed forces of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

The Propaganda Administration was led by ZHILENKOV, who was also VLASOV's deputy for propaganda matters. One of the missions of the administration headed by ZHILENKOV was the organization of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda in the units of the RLA, in the ranks of the Red Army and in the Soviet rear territory.

In addition to that, it was ZHILENKOV's responsibility to maintain communications with all foreign representatives of the press and art. In connection with this, ZHILENKOV was given two sections: propaganda among the forces of the RLA, and propaganda among units of the Red Army and the civilian population, informational, organizational-methodological, press, radio, film and art.

The Organizational Administration was headed by MALYSHKIN, who was also VLASOV's deputy. The tasks of this

administration included the realization of all the decisions made by the committee, the creation of agencies that in the future would be governmental bodies, and also to provide for the security of the members of the committee.

To achieve these things, the administration headed by MALYSHKIN included: a scientific council, a security division, a legal division and divisions for military relations, finance, and administrative-maintenance.

The Civil Affairs Administration was headed by VLASOV's deputy ZAKUTNY. It fell to the Civil Affairs Administration to conduct work among the workers taken by the Germans to Germany and select leadership personnel for committee agencies. Under ZAKUTNY were the following divisions: Workers, Social Aid, Religion, Schools, and Work with Youth.

As a member of the presidium of the committee, I held the post of executive officer of the armed forces of CLPR, while also being VLASOV's deputy for military issues.

… QUESTION: How was the headquarters that you led put together?

ANSWER: BOYARSKY and I began to form the headquarters of the armed forces of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, as we named it, immediately after VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER. By the beginning of October 1944, I had already presented VLASOV with an organization chart for the headquarters and my thoughts about putting together the basic duty posts, and since according to the instructions of the Germans the armed forces of the Russian Liberation Army were to be created according to the regulations of the German Army, I worked out the structure of the headquarters according to this example.

However, when the schematic I had worked out for VLASOV's headquarters was reported to the German command, instructions came from them on significant reduction of the numbers of officers in the headquarters. After that, I produced the final work-up of the schematic for the headquarters according to the instructions of the representative of the German command, General KÖSTRING, who was named the commanding officer of volunteer forces.

QUESTION: Tell us about the structure of the headquarters of the RLA that you created.

ANSWER: The headquarters of the RLA consisted of the following sections:

Operational, which was led by the former head of the operational section of the headquarters of one of the armies of the Western Front, Colonel of the Red Army NERYANIN. His section managed the map of the conditions on the front and prepared operational orders.

Intelligence, which was led by former Major of the Red Army GRACHEV.[93] The intelligence section in turn consisted of the following departments: general intelligence, which was led part-time by GRACHEV; agent-based intelligence, headed by former worker of the security administration of the Red Army, Sr. Lieutenant GAI; and counterintelligence, headed by former worker of the border forces of the NKVD CHIKALOV.

The department of General Military Intelligence provided leadership for the training of intelligence units in the divisions of the RLA, managed the selection of officers for these intel units, and conducted polls of former military service members of the Red Army who had been captured by the Germans. For this reason GRACHEV occasionally went out to the German camps of Lötzen and Lukenwald.

QUESTION: How did you make use of the spy information that GRACHEV collected?

ANSWER: The information collected by GRACHEV was used in anti-Soviet propaganda and in assembling daily intelligence reports, which in addition included data sets from Soviet, English, and other foreign radio programming on the conditions at the front. The Department of Agent-Based Intelligence was organized with the goal of leading work in the training of agents inserted in the rear of the Red Army with assignments for spying or spurring uprisings. One of the functions of the Counterintelligence Department was revealing the presence of Soviet agents and other kinds of individuals hostile to us in the units of the RLA. The Counterintelligence Department conducted their work with the help of secret agents who had been recruited from among RLA POWs.

Command—at the head of which was the former head of Chemical Service of the headquarters of one of the corps of the Red Army from the Volga Military District,[94] Lt. Col. POZDNYAKOV. This department conducted the recruitment of military officers of the Red Army and managed their

appointments to command posts in the RLA as well as various movements and assessments of the officers. In its practical activity, the command department organized commissions that oversaw the recruitment of military POWs into the RLA; created within itself a permanent reserve numbering 400 people of officers who were former military service members of the Red Army; created an officers' school for officer training, graduates of which later made up RLA units; and developed regulations for the conduct of the RLA officer corps.

Battle-preparedness—led by the former head of the mechanized, armored, and tank forces of one of the armies, Colonel of the Red Army ARTSIZOV, who was named Major General of the RLA ASSBERG. The rank of Major General was given to him by the Germans. ARTSIZOV's department oversaw the combat training in units of the RLA and led the work of the officers' school that existed under the committee, where they were constantly retraining Red Army officers who had been recruited in German camps. In due time, the Battle Readiness Department worked up its own instructions and basic regulations on the bases of those taken from both the Red Army and German units regarding standing drill formation and discipline, and conducted systematic checks on the status of battle-readiness in the divisions.

Organization and formation. This department was headed by the former commander of one of the divisions of the Leningrad Front, Colonel of the Red Army DENISOV. This department undertook the recruitment of enlisted and non-commissioned officers in the RLA from among former service members of the Red Army located in German prison camps and managed issues of reworking all sorts of regulations (for service careers, medals, awards).

Propaganda and agitation, led by former battalion commissar of the Red Army KHASPABOV. Using materials from the Propaganda Administration of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, KHASPABOV's department managed to instill in the personnel of the RLA an anti-Soviet spirit, using the publication of the newspaper *Road to the Homeland* for that purpose.

Artillery—headed by the former head of artillery for one of the armies, Brigade Commander of the Red Army BOGDANOV. His department managed the preparation of reference materials

and leadership for the artillery units of the RLA and functioned as inspectors.

Engineering—headed by former military engineer of the first rank YAROPUD. This department managed the training of RLA engineering units and prepared all sorts of reference materials and texts in that area.

Material-technical—led by the former head of artillery of one of the armies, Major General SEVASTYANOV. The function of this department was to place various provisions from the Germans—from uniforms and arms to foodstuffs, salaries for officers, and stipends for soldiers—in various RLA units. SEVASTYANOV's department was always in close contact with the German command, since the Germans were providing all sorts of material and technical support.

Cryptographics—headed by the former head of the crypto department of the 57th Army, Lt. Col. of the Red Army PAVLOV. This department managed work with ciphers for communications and trained people in RLA units to work in cipher service. During its existence, PAVLOV;s department worked up conversation codes and tables for secret communications at division level, created a cipher system for messages between the divisions and the headquarters, and worked up and put out to RLA units regulations on the use of secret communications.

Communications—headed by the former assistant to the head of communications for the 2nd Strike Force Army, Lt. Col of the Red Army KARBUKOV, to whom General VLASOV gave the rank of Colonel. KARBUKOV's department managed providing communications for the troops and training specialists for this work.

Military-Judicial—headed by the former assistant to the commander of one of the regiments, Captain of the Red Army ARBENIN, who held the rank of Major in the RLA. His department managed the organization of field military trials, investigative departments, prosecutorial work, and working up regulations for the court and the prosecution.

Military-Sanitary—led by White émigré and Professor of Medicine NOVIKOV.

NOVIKOV's department managed the issue of providing medical personnel to the units of the RLA, forming field hospitals, and providing medications and medical equipment issued by the German command. During its existence, NOVIKOV's department

formed a field hospital, organized courses for nurses, and selected medical personnel for RLA units.

Military-Veterinary—headed by the former instructor of the Military Veterinary Academy of the Red Army,[95] Major SARAEV. SARAEV's department managed the selection and assignment to RLA units of veterinary personnel and provided necessary equipment and medications received from the Germans.

Adminstrative-financial—headed by former quartermaster of a Red Army division Captain SHISHKEVICH. His department organized the distribution of all manner of equipment and provisions to the personnel of the headquarters.

The headquarters also had a security battalion, which was commanded until April 1945 by the former head of the academic section of the Vladikavkaz Infantry Academy, Captain BEGLETSOV. In April 1945, BEGLETSOV was killed in an aviation attack by the Anglo-Americans, after which the battalion was temporarily commanded by former Sr. Lt. DUBOVETS, who was also the commander of the second company. This battalion consisted of three companies, one of which provided security for the institutions of the committee and the personal guards of VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, and ZHILENKOV. The remaining companies were under the headquarters, guarding the service quarters of the headquarters and the house where the leadership was billeted.

In addition, there was a group of German officers to help provide communications between the German command and my headquarters, which was headed until December 1944 by Oberführer of the SS BUR, who was later replaced by the German Major OTTENDORF, through whom I maintained constant communication with General KÖSTRING. There were also groups of German offices representing all types of troops, including officers of the German intelligence agencies, in the RLA divisions in the camps at Münsingen and Heuberg.

QUESTION: Testify as to what kind of intelligence activity was conducted against the Soviet Union by the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

ANSWER: Under the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia from October 1944, there was a so-called Security Division, [96] whose functions included conducting intelligence and counterintelligence activity. This division was created on the initiative of General VLASOV and led at first by

former Major of the Red Army KALUGIN. Then later, around November 1944, he was replaced by a member of the committee, the former docent of mathematics at one of the institutes of higher learning in Moscow, TENSOROV, and KALUGIN was named his deputy.

The Security Division, as I already testified above, was included in the Organizational Administration subordinate to MALYSHKIN as VLASOV's deputy.

The work of the Security Division was closely connected to German intelligence and counterintelligence agencies. Official colleagues from German intelligence were always present in the Security Division. The Security Division of the CLPR mainly used the materials of agents sent to the Soviet rear territory by German intelligence agencies, but along with this, it took active measures to have its own network of agents. Thus, in January 1945, Major TENZEROV, with the approval of MALYSHKIN, traveled to Eastern Prussia to one of the German intelligence agencies that was involved in the preparation and insertion of agents into the rear of the Red Army in order to establish direct communications with this agency to utilize their help in placing their own agents inside the Soviet Union.

In addition, from the very beginning of the organization of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the head of the Security Division, Major KALUGIN, and then later TENZEROV, took measures, on VLASOV's orders, to organize an intelligence school with the help of the Germans for the training of its own agents, but the German command in its turn proposed that we train our agents in their intelligence schools. VLASOV did not agree to this. In November 1944, members of the Abwehr—Sr. Lt. von KLEIST and Hauptmann GIL—came to me on the instructions of VLASOV, and they wanted to allocate a group of individuals for training in a German sabotage school, but learning in conversation with GIL that these individuals would not be transferred to us upon completion of the training, I refused GIL.

In October 1944, a representative of the German intelligence agency Zeppelin, Major JUNG, came to me with a similar proposal, which I likewise declined, stating that we would be preparing our own agents to be sent to the Soviet Union.

In December 1944, the Security Division managed to come to an agreement with the German command on provisions for an intelligence school[97] for the committee, where our agents could be

trained. In the beginning of January 1945, in the area around Marienbad, the Security Division, with the help of German intelligence, put together an intelligence school where up to 50 people could be trained.*

QUESTION: From whom was this school made up?

ANSWER: The personnel of the Marienbad intelligence school, as the Committee referred to it, was made up of former Red Army service members who had been recruited by the Security Division into the first division of the RLA. I am not aware of who made up the instructor staff.

QUESTION: Whom did the Marienbad intelligence school train?

ANSWER: The intelligence school in Marienbad mainly trained those who organized movements for uprisings in the rear of the Red Army. Along with this, they also trained spies and saboteurs. The following subjects were taught in the school: topography, shooting, radio operation, demolition techniques, methods of collecting spy information, and conduct of an agent in rear territory. The time frame for the course of study was two months.

QUESTION: The investigation is aware that in the headquarters of the RLA, which you led, there were agents who were also trained for insertion into the USSR. Do you admit this?

ANSWER: Yes, in March 1945, in the region of Bratislava (Czechoslovakia), I organized a school to train intelligence agents for the Intelligence Division of the Headquarters of the RLA; they were intended to be inserted into the rear territory of the Red Army in order to collect spy information and organize sabotage and uprisings in the area just behind the front.

QUESTION: Testify in detail as to how this school was organized.

ANSWER: At the end of January 1945, the head of the Command Section of the headquarters, Colonel POZDNYAKOV, told me in conversation that he had received a letter from his acquaintance Sonderführer MÜLLER, who informed him that he would soon come to Berlin to clear up a question about the organization of a new school to train intelligence agents. I asked POZDNYAKOV to introduce me to MÜLLER when he arrived in Berlin.

In the beginning of February, POZDNYAKOV introduced me to MÜLLER, from whom I learned that the headquarters of the

Southern Front, whose representative he was, had permission to organize a school in Slovakia for the training of saboteur groups for operations in the rear of the Red Army.

I proposed to MÜLLER to organize this school from those recruited military service members of the RLA and, along with sabotage, to teach the agents to find spy information and organize uprisings in the rear of the Red Army. MÜLLER promised to report my requests to the command of the front and if they agreed, he would send his representative. Several days after this, MÜLLER arrived in the Heuberg camp where the headquarters was located at that time, accompanied by Doctor KRAUSE (or KRAUS) and stated that the German command of the South Front had agreed to our proposals. As I was not in the Heuberg camp at that time, the details of the final agreement on the organization of the intelligence school were worked out by my deputy, Colonel BOYARSKY, and the head of the Operational Division of the headquarters, Colonel NERYANIN.

They came to an agreement with the Germans that all the material expenses for the upkeep of the school would be the responsibility of the German command of the South Front, and the RLA would allocate 100 people for training in the school and the necessary instruction staff. Upon completion of the school, the agents intended for insertion into the rear of the Red Army would be given assignments by representatives of the RLA headquarters and representatives of German intelligence. German intelligence agencies would maintain radio contact with agents inserted into the USSR. The course of study for the school was 1½–2 months. At the end of February 1945, I personally informed VLASOV of these conditions and he approved them.

QUESTION: Who was the head of the intelligence school?

ANSWER: At the proposal of BOYARSKY, I appointed as head of the intelligence school a White Guard member and colleague of German intelligence, IVANOV; as his assistant, former Captain of the Red Army AISTOV; and former Captain of the Red Army BAKSHANSKY as instructor for training agents in an anti-Soviet spirit.

QUESTION: What training did the agents receive in the intelligence school that you organized?

ANSWER: The training program in the school included military training, the study of radio operations, demolition and parachute jumps, methods of collecting spy information, ways of passing on

this information, and rules for the behavior of agents in the rear of the Red Army. A significant amount of time was spent on conditioning agents in an anti-Soviet spirit.

QUESTION: Why are you silent on the fact that terrorists were being trained in this school you organized?

ANSWER: In the intelligence school organized by me in the region of Bratislava, we trained no terrorists.

QUESTION: Not true. You are being presented with the academic program for individual training of agent cadres of the intelligence school of the RLA headquarters for insertion into the territory of the USSR, in which there are provisions for the preparation of agent-insurgents for the completion of individual assignments. For what purpose were these agent-insurgents trained?

ANSWER: I must admit that following my instructions in April 1945, the head of the agent section of the intelligence division of the RLA headquarters, GAI, really did work up a program presented to me for the individual training of agent cadres in which there were plans to prepare terrorists to be inserted in the Soviet Union and to train them in handling weapons and the use of poison, but none of these classes were ever conducted, since in April 1945, as a result of the rapid advance of the Red Army to the West, the school had to evacuate to the Salzburg region.

QUESTION: Who was the initiator of creating a specially trained group of terrorists?

ANSWER: I gave GAI the idea of the necessity of the creation of an special intelligence group of trained terrorists, since I considered that we would need people who were prepared for terrorist activity in the fight against the Soviet government.

QUESTION: Did you speak of this issue with VLASOV?

ANSWER: No. I did not have time to report to him on my intentions to create a special group within the intelligence school to train terrorists. Nor did we discuss the question of who among the leaders of the Soviet government should be targeted for terrorist acts.

QUESTION: Testify as to who among the agents completing training in the school you organized were in fact placed in the Soviet Union.

ANSWER: The Intelligence Division of the headquarters that I led placed no agents in the territory of the Soviet Union since,

due to constant withdrawal of forces under the blows of the Red Army, the intelligence school did not have the time to complete their training.

As far as the intelligence school in the region of Marienbad run by the Security Division of the CLPR goes, I know that in March 1945 there was a graduation of agents and that their placement in the USSR was to have begun, but as to whether that in fact took place, I am unsure.

QUESTION: Where did you learn that in March 1945 there was a graduation held in the intelligence school in Marienbad?

ANSWER: In mid-March 1945, the head of a section of the Intelligence Division of the RLA headquarters, Sr. Lt. GAI, reported to me that he had had a conversation with one of the German intelligence officers who had returned from Soviet territory. That intelligence officer, by the name of BEREZOV, said that he knew of individuals in Western Ukraine who at any minute might be recruited to conduct enemy activity against the Soviet Union. Thinking that BEREZOV might be used for our purposes, at the end of March 1945, I tasked GAI with introducing BEREZOV to KALUGIN, to whom I gave a written instruction to use BEREZOV to insert agents who had completed the Marienbad school into the Soviet Union.

GAI and BEREZOV were at KALUGIN's in Karlsbad. Through GAI, KALUGIN then informed me that the course of study in the Marienbad school was already completed and that they were currently preparing to place agents in the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: What counterintelligence activity was conducted by the Security Division?

ANSWER: The Security Division implemented their work in counterintelligence through a network of secret agents that they had. The agents were given the task of identifying Soviet intelligence operatives, individuals who supported the Soviet regime, or any other sort of enemy groupings within the RLA and the branches of the committee.

I should say that the counterintelligence activity of the Security Division was approved by VLASOV. I know that VLASOV, whenever he was interested in one of his subordinates or someone held in the camps, or even someone entirely independent of him, he asked MALYSHKIN or TENZEROV and they gave him a report on that person that included his leanings and connections.

Until February 1945, the counterintelligence work in the Security Division was headed by a former border officer of the NKVD, Major CHIKALOV, and later, when an intelligence section had been organized in my headquarters, CHIKALOV transferred to the headquarters; I don't know who replaced him. In the intelligence section of my headquarters, CHIKALOV worked as the head of the counterintelligence section, performing the same functions as he had in the Security Division.

In the intelligence section of the headquarters, CHIKALOV also implemented his work through secret informers recruited from among the military service members of the RLA.

The leadership of the agents was conducted through the officers of the counterintelligence section, who were named special assignment officers.

In its practical work, the counterintelligence section of the Intelligence Division of the headquarters was, like the counterintelligence of the Security Division, in close contact with the German counterintelligence agencies, representatives of which were present in RLA units.

QUESTION: How did the formation of RLA units come about? From what contingent were they formed?

ANSWER: The bulk of RLA units were put together from former military service members of the Red Army who had already been serving in the so-called "volunteer" battalions operating among the German forces on both the Eastern and Western Front. The thing is that part of the military from the Red Army who ended up imprisoned by the Germans in hard conditions tried in some way to improve their situation. The German command began forming these military members into voluntary battalions, regiments, and later brigades in 1941, and they were at first used for unit security, and later directly on the front lines as separate battle units.

When, in December 1942, VLASOV called for the creation of a committee, he began to take measures to transfer these units to himself, but until his meeting with HIMMLER, VLASOV remained unable to achieve anything of substance. After VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER, the latter allowed the formation of units from the above-mentioned "volunteer" battalions operating on the front together with the Germans. But HIMMLER also warned that at first we would be allowed to take only several battalions to form the core of the Russian Liberation

Army. For this reason, I decided to focus on bringing in people to the RLA from among POWs. For this purpose, I sent 10 special commissions out to the camps, concentrating on propagandists that had previously completed the Dabendorf courses to undertake the recruitment of military service members.

The direct formation of the divisions was conducted in the camps at Münsingen and Heuberg, given over to us by the Germans especially for this.

The direct formation of the first division in the Münsingen camp was run by a former Colonel of the Red Army, called Major General by the Germans, BUNYACHENKO.

The main core of this division was an SS brigade that had previously been operating in the east under the command of the traitor to the homeland and former engineer of a sugar factory in Lokot KAMINSKY. This was around 5,000 people and two or three volunteer battalions brought over to us by permission of the Germans from France.

The remaining personnel were recruited through the commissions I mentioned above in the camps for POWs in Dresden, Eastern Prussia, and Silezia.

By the beginning of March 1945, the first division was fully assembled, armed, and equipped. This division numbered up to 12 thousand people, and had 100 large guns, several tanks, fixed machine guns and automatic rifles. In Münsingen there was also an officers' school for 1,500 people, later under the command of MIANDROV, and a separate sapper battalion under the command of Captain of the Red Army BUDNY.

From January 1945, the second division was being formed in the Heuberg camp. The formation of this division under my leadership was carried out by former Colonel of the Red Army, made Major General by the Germans, ZVEREV. Within the division there were two battalions taken from the Western front, two battalions from the Eastern front, and one battalion from Denmark.[98] The remainder of the personnel were taken from among POWs recruited by ZVEREV in Norway.

The formation of the second division was finished by the end of April 1945. Upon completion, the division numbered 13 thousand soldiers and officers, but they were not armed or equipped fully. The division had only up to one thousand German rifles, and several hand-held and fixed machine guns.

From March 1945, in the Heuberg camp, Colonel of the Red Army KOIDA began at my command to form a reserve brigade that by the beginning of April numbered five thousand people. At about the same time, in the region of Stettin, the White émigré SAKHAROV formed a separate rifle regiment of 200 people, two or three anti-tank units, and two marching battalions. In addition to this, at the end of April 1945, on the order of HIMMLER, the White Cossack corps led by German General von PANNVITZ was given over to the headquarters that I commanded along with the Cossack regiments commanded by DAMANOV located in the region of Tolmezzo (Italy).

QUESTION: Which RLA units took part in military action against the Red Army?

ANSWER: In the first days of February 1945, on the orders of VLASOV, an anti-tank group was organized from his personal guard and course members of the propagandist courses in Dabendorf, and under the command of White émigré SAKHAROV, this group fought battles against the Red Army to the north of Kostrzyn.

In February 1945, when the Red Army reached the Oder River as a result of successful battles and Berlin was under direct threat, VLASOV proposed to the Germans to organize an anti-tank brigade for the defense of Berlin from the Russian POWs. I supported this initiative of VLASOV's and on 7 February, 1945, VLASOV and I wrote an order for the formation of said brigade, named by us as a special unification. Former commander of a rifle division from the Red Army SHAPOVALOV was appointed commander of this brigade.

The personnel for this brigade were to be recruited in part from POWs located in camps on the outskirts of Berlin and Russian workers, and in part from the already-formed first division of the RLA. The officer corps of the brigade was to come from the officer reserves located under the RLA headquarters. However, when SHAPOVALOV went to the commandant of Berlin for armaments for this brigade, he was refused, and as a result of this, in March 1945 they had put together only one anti-tank battalion from units of the first division and sent it to the front in the area of Frankfurt-on-Oder, where they took part in battles against the Red Army.

On the orders of VLASOV, in the beginning of April in the area of the city of Cottbus, not far from Berlin, the first division of

the Red Army under BUNYACHENKO saw action against the Red Army in two of the rifle battalions and the artillery regiment.

As VLASOV told me, these units were given the mission of breaking apart the Red Army units forming the avant-garde to this region, but this mission was not completed and after significant losses on the part of the RLA battalions, they were withdrawn to the west.

By the end of April, when it became obvious that Germany was living out its last days, a panic began among members of the committee, many leaving to the west, to the Swiss border, in order to avoid falling into the hands of the Red Army. I was aware that the northern grouping, which included the first division, a separate regiment under the command of Colonel SAKHAROV, two or three anti-tank battalions, and two marching battalions, was located in the region of Prague-Pilsen, moving from the region of Cottbus. VLASOV was supposed to have been with the northern grouping.

The southern grouping, which included the second division under the command of ZVEREV, a reserve brigade under the command of KOIDA, a separate sapper-construction battalion, the officers' school, a separate security battalion, and officer reserves were located on leave somewhere in the region of Neum Beneshov after a march from the region of Linz.

The Cossack corps, under the command of General von PANNVITZ, was at that time withdrawing from Zagreb to the northwest. In the last days of April 1945, ZHILENKOV was sent to make contact with this corps, but whether or not he found their location I do not know, since after that I heard no more news from ZHILENKOV.

The Cossack regiments under the command of DAMANOV were located in the region of Tolmezzo (Northern Italy).

Military units of the RLA withdrew to the south of Germany, where VLASOV had ordered them to consolidate forces.

QUESTION: Why did VLASOV consolidate RLA forces in the south of Germany?

ANSWER: VLASOV told the members of the committee that we should not cease fighting against the Soviet Union even if Germany agreed to unconditional surrender. We thought that we could manage to consolidate the RLA forces in the south of Germany in the foothills of the Alps and, taking advantage of the natural conditions, hold there until the war that we supposed

would begin between England and the Soviet Union had begun, and then we would join the side of England and continue to fight against the USSR.

I should say that as early as the summer of 1943, when the Red Army began to successfully move to the west, I suggested in conversation with VLASOV that he establish contact with the English.

QUESTION: Did VLASOV take your proposal seriously?

ANSWER: Yes, he did. In the summer of 1943, at the *dacha* on the outskirts of Berlin where VLASOV lived, we spoke about the latest events at the front. Concerning the successes of the Red Army on the Eastern front, I asked VLASOV what we should do if Germany was defeated, whether we should not try ahead of time to establish some sort of contact with the English and clear up the matter of how they would look upon us in the case of a German defeat, and VLASOV answered that due to recent events it was possible to imagine that Germany would be defeated and therefore the question of establishing contact with the English was a timely one.

VLASOV further stated that it was necessary to deal with this issue, since England and America could never be true friends of the Soviet Union and would not allow the flag of the Soviet Union to be hung among those of the European nations after the defeat of Germany. Sooner or later, England would wage war against the USSR, and since every division would, according to VLASOV, be worth its weight in gold after the end of this war, we could use our forces to take power into our own hands. At the end of our conversation, VLASOV said that he would take this issue on personally.

Later, in March 1945, VLASOV told me that he, under the guise of establishing contact with the International Red Cross, had sent the White émigré ZHEREBKOV to Switzerland, giving him the assignment of establishing contact with the Anglo-Americans. At the end of March 1945, ZHEREBKOV had put together all the necessary documents to go to Geneva, but as to whether he did go there, I cannot say.

Seeing that VLASOV's attempts were unsuccessful, I decided to independently contact the English and in April 1945, when at the camp in Heuberg where the RLA were being formed, I decided in agreement with those close to me—BOYARSKY, MIANDROV, and ZVEREV—to send a representative to the

English through the front lines, giving him the mission of getting to one of the headquarters of the English or American armies and, after explaining that we would take no military action against them, [getting them] to clarify how they would view us coming over to their side. We decided together to send former Lieutenant of the Red Army Fleet LAPIN, a man who served in the Intelligence Section of my headquarters, to the English, and in April 1945 he went out to the English, but he never came back.

On 20 April, 1945, meeting VLASOV in the area of Füssen, I reported to him about sending LAPIN to the English, and VLASOV approved of my actions. At that meeting, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, BOYARSKY, and I decided to send MALYSHKIN to the English as an official authority in the name of the Russian Committee, and he was to clarify whether or not the English would accept us and allow us to keep our force intact. ZAKUTNY, it was decided, would remain in Füssen with the same goal, since the English forces were to move in there.

VLASOV informed the German representative, General ASCHENBRENNER, of this decision, and he not only did not voice any objections, but he even advised that MALYSHKIN leave for the Sudeten hills to the castle of Prince Coburg, who was supposedly a relative of the English king and was awaiting the arrival of the English there. As far as I know, VLASOV gave MALYSHKIN all appropriate documents authorizing him to negotiate with the English, but he did not make it to the castle and remained with ZAKUTNY in Füssen. Whether VLASOV was able to establish contact with the English, and what the results of that might be, I am not aware.

On 23 April, 1945, I returned from VLASOV to the RLA units in the region of Fürsten Brük, which had at that time begun loading trains in order to move east, to the city of Linz. On leaving Forsten Feld Brük, at MIANDROV's suggestion I left a major there whose name I cannot remember to try to establish contact with the Anglo-Americans.

On 4 May, 1945, in the region between Kaplitz and Freistadt, with the agreement of committee members BOYARSKY, MIANDROV, MUZYCHENKO, and GRECHKO, I sent ASSBERG (whose real name is ARTSYZOV) and POZDNYAKOV to the English in the name of the Committee for Liberation, providing them with confirmation that they were being sent by the

Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia to the Anglo-American forces to clarify the possibility of a withdrawal of the armed forces of CLPR to the territory occupied by the Americans. These individuals were authorized to declare that we had no intention of taking military action against the Anglo-American forces. The papers were signed by me as a member of the presidium of CLPR and the executive officer of the RLA, and also by BOYARSKY, MIANDROV, MUZYCHENKO, and GRECHKO.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a type-printed text of authorization in Russian and French. Is this the document you are referring to?

ANSWER: Yes, the document presented to me is a copy of the authorization that I provided to ASSBERG on sending him to the Anglo-Americans.

In addition to this document, I gave ASSBERG the oral instruction that he should try, if possible, to get a guarantee from the Anglo-Americans that they would not hand us over to the Soviet command after surrender.

On 4 May, 1945, the individuals I mentioned left for the location of the Anglo-American forces, and two days later they returned and said that they had been received by the commander of the 11th American Tank Division—I do not remember his name—who agreed to accept the surrender of the RLA forces, but regarding the guarantee said only that he did not get involved in politics and could not give any such guarantee. Along with this news, ASSBERG brought a letter from the Americans with conditions for surrender written out in two copies, in English and French, which consisted roughly of the following:

1) The CLPR forces would be accepted without any sort of guarantee.
2) The forces should give up all weapons and military property.
3) If desired, officers were allowed to retain their personal weapon and up to 10 rifles per company.
4) The forces should move along a designated route and consolidate in an indicated region (as far as I remember, the region was Leonosfeld).
5) To have with them provisions for not less than 10 days.

The time established by the Americans for a response was by six o'clock on 8 May, 1945. By that time, I was to send eight officers with a signed copy of the conditions for surrender. Until the appointed hour, there was a guarantee that no military action would be taken against the RLA. When I received these conditions for surrender, on one page I signed in agreement and left with the other copy in the direction of Budweis in order to discuss the matter with VLASOV. En route, on 7 May, 1945, I was arrested by Red Army officers in the area of Pshioram.

The transcript was recorded accurately from my words and read by me.
Trukhin

Interrogated by: Asst. Head of the Investigative Division of the Main Directorate of SMERSH
Major Kovalenko

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 2. L. 141–189. Original.

5. Transcripts of the interrogations of I. A. Blagoveschensky and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 5.1. Transcript of the interrogation of I. A. Blagoveschensky.

30 January, 1946
Interrogation Transcript
of the accused Blagoveschensky Ivan Alekseevich

From 30 January, 1946

BLAGOVESCHENSKY I. A., born 1893 in Yurievets, Ivanovo District, Russian, citizen of the USSR, from the family of a priest, former member of the All-Union Communist Party, in the Red

Army since 1918, former head of the Naval Academy in the town of Libava, Major General of Shore Service.

QUESTION: When you were arrested, a service booklet of the Russian Liberation Army was taken from you. When did you join the service of the Germans?

ANSWER: I joined the Russian Liberation Army on 5 February, 1943.

QUESTION: But you set off on the path to fight against the Soviet regime significantly earlier?

ANSWER: Yes, I began to be involved in anti-Soviet activity for the first time in November 1941 during the time I was a POW with the Germans.

QUESTION: You voluntarily surrendered to the Germans?

ANSWER: Yes, I voluntarily surrendered to the enemy. At the end of July 1941, when the Soviet garrison in Libava was cut off from the rest of the Red Army forces by the Germans, I received an order as the head of the Libava Naval Academy from the head of defenses of Libava, who was simultaneously in the role of commander of the 67th Rifle Division—a colonel whose name I do not remember—to break through the encirclement of the Germans together with the personnel of the academy and those border guards and ships under my command and reunite with Red Army units moving from the direction of Riga.

After the Germans' encirclement had been broken, the forward units continued on ahead, and I as the acting commander of defense of the northeast sector of Libava—together with the headquarters, the cadets of the academy, the sailors, and remaining soldiers, numbering about 100 people in all—held back about 10 kilometers from Libava until night. The delay was caused by the fact that the column of vehicles, artillery, and tanks following us in the highway were bogged down. Our attempts to prod the column onward met with no success, and as a result the cadets and sailors scattered into the woods over the course of the night.

When we fell behind the forward units and lost control of the sub-units, I and a small group of cadets and sailors, whose names I do not remember, began to make our way through the woods in the direction of Riga to meet up with the Red Army units. On the way, the majority of cadets and sailors fell behind me, and I was left with only two cadets, whose names I do not remember.

On 6 June, 1941, we approached Sirava. Coming out of the edge of the forest from Sirava, I heard Russian voices. I ordered one of the cadets who was with me to find out who was holding that position, but the cadet never came back to us. It became clear to me that Sirava was occupied by the Aizsargi, seeing as it was already well known that the Aizsargi were helping the Germans. The remaining cadet asked me what he should do next. I answered that I could not go on any further and had decided to voluntarily surrender. The cadet told me that he would do the same as his general and also surrender. Then I sent him into Sirava to inform the Aizsargi that there was a general in the forest who wanted to surrender, and began to wait for them to come for me.

Soon, several armed Aizsargi were sent to me and I, not making any attempts at resistance, surrendered to them, handing over the battle weapon and ammunition that I had on me.

QUESTION: In doing so, you betrayed the homeland?

ANSWER: I admit that in voluntarily surrendering to the enemy, I committed a grave crime—I betrayed the homeland and now regret doing so.

At the time, attempting to escape from being surrounded by the enemy, I was both physically and morally beaten down. It seemed to me that my situation was hopeless, that the Germans were moving forward successfully and I would never manage to get out to the location of the Soviet forces. Not wanting to risk my life, I decided to voluntarily surrender to the Germans.

QUESTION: After your imprisonment, did the Germans interrogate you?

ANSWER: The Germans interrogated me several times. The first time, they interrogated me not far from the town where I surrendered. I was interrogated by one of the Germans who spoke good Russian. During the interrogation, in addition to my personal details, they were interested in fortifications in the area of the town of Libava, the composition of the forces of the Libava garrison, and whether there was anyone among these forces of the kind of serious commander who could lead these forces and organize opposition to the German forces. As far as I recall, the Germans asked no other questions in the first interrogation.

QUESTION: What did you tell the Germans during your interrogation?

ANSWER: I mostly answered the Germans' questions concerning my biography; in particular, I told them that I was a general and until imprisonment had been the head of the Libava Naval Academy.

To the question concerning fortifications, I said that in Libava and the area around Libava there were only old fortifications left from the time of the Imperialist war and no new fortifications had been put in place. Regarding the personnel of the Libava garrison, I informed the Germans that there were no other military units in Libava and the defense was maintained by the cadets of my academy, and also from the sub-units formed from the commands of the ships in port and the port itself. I also said that the headquarters of the 67th Rifle Division was located in Libava, but that the regiments of that division were deployed somewhere on the outskirts of the town.

QUESTION: And did they ask about the status of the Libava Naval Academy during the interrogation?

ANSWER: No, I was not asked about the status of the Libava Naval Academy during the first or any of the subsequent interrogations.

QUESTION: But the Germans were clearly interested in the fate of the ships located at the Libava base, since you informed them that the commands of the ships provided defense of the town on land, were they not?

ANSWER: The Germans did ask me about the ships located at the Libava base, but that was later, during interrogation at the Hammelburg POW camp.

QUESTION: But before you arrived at the Hammelburg camp for military POWs, you were interrogated, were you not?

ANSWER: Yes, I was.

QUESTION: Testify in detail about these interrogations.

ANSWER: Two days after the first interrogation, I was taken to the city of Siauliai, where I was called for an interrogation with a German general. However, the interrogation, if it can be called that, lasted only five minutes, during which the German asked only whether or not I was a general and what my duty assignment was.

Later, I was taken to the Siauliai prison, where they did not interrogate me, but only gave me a slip of paper saying that I, prisoner BLAGOVESCHENSKY, was a general and two or three days later sent me to one of the camps near Tilsit, where I spent

about three weeks. I did not undergo interrogation there, and only filled out one form, answering a number of questions concerning my biography. At the end of July 1941, I was transferred from the camp near Tilsit to the Hammelburg camp.

QUESTION: What were you interrogated about in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs?

ANSWER: In the Hammelburg camp, as far as I remember, I was interrogated two or three times, and in addition to that, just as in the Tilsit camp, I filled out a form there. During one of the interrogations, they asked me about the ships at the Libava Naval Base. Since I knew that in connection with the mining of the exit from the Libava port, submarines and ships that had not been able to leave the port had been sunk, I told the Germans about that. However, to their question as to where exactly the ships had been sunk, I could not give them a concrete answer, as I myself did not know the exact location of the sunken ships. As far as I remember now, at the same interrogation I told them about the location of roadside bombs on the road from Libava to Vindava to Riga (at the intersection with the road going to Grobin), which had been detonated by us.

At one of the following interrogations, the Germans asked about the condition of the Caucasus fortified sector, since before that I had informed them that from 1936–37, I had been the executive officer of the South Caucasus Fortified Sector. In particular, they asked me what fortifications were in place on the Soviet-Turkish border and what batteries were under my command as the executive officer of the fortified sector. I answered the Germans that at the time that I was the executive officer, the Caucasus Fortified Sector had two shore artillery batteries located right at the water's edge, one eight-inch battery located at a distance of one kilometer from the shore, and two zenith artillery cannons, thus five total batteries. Of the condition of the fortifications on the Soviet-Turkish border I could tell the Germans nothing, since I myself knew nothing about them. They also asked me about the fort "Red Hill" [*Krasnayagorka*] on the Baltic sea, but I did not know anything about that fort.

QUESTION: Were you held long at the Hammelburg camp?

ANSWER: I was at that camp from the beginning of August 1941, until the end of April 1942. When I arrived at the camp, I was housed in one room with some other Red Army generals who were already there: TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich, former head of

operations in the headquarters of the Baltic Military District; YEGOROV Yevgeny Arsenyevich, former commander of the 4th Rifle Corps; ALAVERDOV Khristofor Nikolaevich, former commander of a rifle division; and NIKITIN Stepan Ivanovich (or Ivan Stepanovich, I do not remember exactly), [99] former commander of a cavalry corps. After some time, someone else arrived at the camp and was placed in with us: Major General ZYBIN Yefim Sergeevich, former commander of a cavalry division.

In the course of our daily lives, we had conversations in which we made anti-Soviet comments. Usually, the initiator of such anti-Soviet conversations was TRUKHIN. I have already forgotten the contents of these conversations, but I remember that TRUKHIN accused the Soviet government and the high command of not knowing how to wage war, stating that as a result of this, the Red Army was suffering defeat and the Germans were able to successfully move deep into the territory of the Soviet Union.

YEGOROV and ZYBIN, who were present at these conversations, always shared TRUKIN's anti-Soviet views and in turn stated that they were POWs because of the incorrect actions of the Soviet government in the war against Germany. ALAVERDOV did not lag far behind them in their criticisms, maintaining that Armenians were oppressed under the Soviet regime and therefore Armenia should leave the Soviet Union, forming an independent bourgeois government.

QUESTION: But you also participated in these anti-Soviet conversations and expressed your own anti-Soviet views, did you not?

ANSWER: Yes, I also took part in these anti-Soviet conversations and supported the anti-Soviet things that TRUKHIN said. I was convinced then that the Red Army would inevitably suffer defeat, that it would be decimated by the Germans, and that the Soviet regime in Russia would be overthrown. Therefore I decided, with the help of the Germans, to begin to actively fight the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: In what way did you fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: I decided to ask the German command to allow me to form military units from those Russian military POWs who had anti-Soviet leanings, to arm them with the help of the Germans, and to train them in military matters, and then to take

part in joint military battles together with the Germans against the Red Army. Generals YEGOROV and ZYBIN, who were with me at the time, were of the same opinion and fully supported me.

Around October or November of 1941, I do not remember exactly, ZYBIN, YEGOROV, and I put together an address to the German Supreme Command in which we explained our motivation for writing such a letter and asked them to allow us to form Russian units for joint armed conflict against the Bolsheviks.

In the address, we declared roughly the following:

We, a group of Soviet generals, believe that the Soviet government, as a result of its incorrect policy, has led the country to destruction. We understand that the German army, executing a noble mission, is fighting not against the Russian people, but against the Bolsheviks, who are to blame for all the woes and suffering of the Russian people, and therefore, moved by a feeling of patriotism, we wish to fight alongside the German army against the Bolsheviks.

We ask the Supreme Command of the German Army to allow us to form Russian military units from the Russian POWs, so as to take part in the armed conflict against the Soviet regime together with the German forces under their command on the front and, in doing so, to hasten the regime's downfall.

QUESTION: Name the traitors who signed this address.

ANSWER: The address was signed by myself, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, ZYBIN, YEGOROV, and former rifle division commander Major General KULIKOV. True, we also asked Generals SOTENSKY,[100] DOBROSERDOV, ALAVERDOV, and NIKITIN to sign, but they refused.

QUESTION: But did TRUKHIN not sign this address?

ANSWER: Insofar as I now recall, TRUKHIN was not at the Hammelburg camp at that time. He was already in Berlin. The address that I put together was given to the representative of German intelligence located in the camp, Captain ZIFERT. Sometime later, ZIFERT invited ZYBIN and me to a meeting which was also attended by former military service member of the Red Army and military jurist MALTSEV Semyon Aleksandrovich, former artist of the Moscow Arts Theater SVERCHKOV Sergei Nikolaevich, and military service member STRAKHAL, whose first name and patronymic I do not know.

QUESTION: Who are MALTSEV, SVERCHKOV, and STRAKHAL and what kind of anti-Soviet activity did they conduct while prisoners of the Germans?

ANSWER: MALTSEV at that time called himself the chair of the Central Committee for the Russian Labor People's Party, SVERCHKOV was MALTSEV's secretary, and STRAKHAL was a rank and file member of this "party." The Russian Labor People's Party was created by the Germans among the Russian POWs held in the Hammelburg camp, and its purpose was to fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Why did ZIFERT call you to this meeting?

ANSWER: At the meeting, ZIFERT raised the question of those of us generals who had expressed a desire to fight against Bolshevism entering into a coalition with the Russian Labor People's Party, since the goal that we sought was the same: fighting against Bolshevism.

QUESTION: Did you form this coalition with the Russian Labor People's Party?

ANSWER: Yes, at ZIFERT's suggestion, ZYBIN, YEGOROV, and I signed a statement requesting that we be accepted as members in the Russian Labor People's Party. Around November 1941, we were all accepted into the "party" and ZYBIN and I were even included in its Central Committee.

QUESTION: Who else was in the Central Committee of the Russian Labor People's Party?

ANSWER: Apart from myself, ZYBIN, MALTSEV, and SVERCHKOV, the Central Committee of the "party" also included Major of the Red Army FILIPPOV Aleksandr Pavlovich, who himself voluntarily came over to the side of the Germans.

From conversations with SVERCHKOV, I learned that TRUKHIN had joined the Russian Labor People's Party and was a member of the Central Committee, though he for some reason hid the fact that he had joined the party from the other generals.

QUESTION: What practical anti-Soviet activity did members of the Russian Labor People's Party conduct in the camp?

ANSWER: According to the instructions of the German ZIFERT, who in practice was the leader of all the activity of the Russian Labor People's Party and its Central Committee, MALTSEV and FILIPPOV, who was the "party" head of the so-called Secret Division, conducted traitorous work. Through their network of agents and police, they sought to uncover Jews and

other individuals exhibiting hostility to the Germans among the military POWs and political workers of the Red Army. They then turned these people over to the Germans. I should say that their traitorous work was rather active, since I know from one of their reports to the Germans written in February 1942 that MALTSEV indicated that members of the Russian Labor People's Party had uncovered and delivered into the hands of the Gestapo more than 2,000 Soviet POWs, who were then executed.

QUESTION: Were you, as a member of the Central Committee of the Russian Labor People's Party, also involved in this traitorous work?

ANSWER: I was involved in a different kind of traitorous work in the party.

QUESTION: What specifically?

ANSWER: On joining the Russian Labor People's Party and becoming a member of the Central Committee of this "party," I was soon appointed by MALTSEV to be the head of its Military Division. On beginning my work as head of the Military Division, I proposed to MALTSEV that we form armed units from POWs to fight against the Soviet regime. YEGOROV and ZYBIN supported me in this and told MALTSEV of their desire to command these units.

In approximately November 1941, MALTSEV came to an agreement with the Germans and ordered me to create several commissions to check the military qualifications of the imprisoned commanders of the Red Army being held in the Hammelburg camp and to determine individuals among them who wanted to take part in armed conflict against the Soviet regime. Following MALTSEV's orders, I created 4 commissions, two of which were headed by YEGOROV and ZYBIN, and two others which were headed at my request by Generals KULIKOV and SOTENSKY. The four of these commissions reviewed almost all of the imprisoned commanders held at Hammelburg and recruited about three thousand into units to fight against Bolshevism.

QUESTION: Is this the only anti-Soviet activity you conducted in that period in the Hammelburg camp?

ANSWER: I also wrote anti-Soviet articles that were placed in the anti-Soviet newspaper "For the Homeland" [*Za rodinu*] published by the Russian Labor People's Party.

I should say that the commissions that I led never did finish their work in forming volunteer units for the fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Why is that?

ANSWER: In December 1941, there was an outbreak of typhoid fever in the Hammelburg camp, a quarantine was placed on the camp, and I—along with MALTSEV, ZYBIN, FILIPPOV, SVERCHKOV, IOGANSON, and another 30 of the most active members of the Russian Labor People's Party—were moved by the Germans into separate quarters, isolating us from the general population of the camp. The quarantine continued until April 1942, and for this reason all further work of our Central Committee and "party" was on the whole paralyzed. In June 1942, the Russian Labor People's Party was dissolved by the Germans altogether.

QUESTION: How can you explain that you, MALTSEV, and another 30 "party" activists were provided privileged conditions during the typhus epidemic?

ANSWER: MALTSEV, ZYBIN, FILIPPOV, SVERCHKOV, IOGANSON, and I, the Germans told us, were to go to Berlin for talks with some powerful German figures about the further work of the RLPP, and the other 30 members of the Russian Labor People's Party, as individuals who had proven themselves to be against the Soviets, were intended to be sent by the Germans to a school for propagandists under the Supreme Command of the German Army. Therefore, we were all isolated from the general prisoner population so that the quarantine would not delay our trip to Berlin or transfer to the school.

QUESTION: For what reason did the Germans dismantle the Russian Labor People's Party in June 1942?

ANSWER: I find it difficult to state the true reasons for the dissolution of the Russian Labor People's Party, since the Germans never stated their reasons to us. However, it should be said that the members of the Russian Labor People's Party, and thus the party as a whole, were severely compromised in the eyes of the Germans. The members of the "party" took advantage of the rights provided to them to keep tabs on the prisoners and even became involved in outright robbery. When they noticed anything of value among the POWs, they filed a false report against them, as a result of which that prisoner was arrested and his things given to members of the "party." At first the Germans paid no

attention to such activity by members of the party, but in April 1942, when a group of POWs working at one of the factories in Nuremberg organized a strike and it was established that all of these prisoners had arrived at the Hammelburg camp on the recommendation of our party, the Germans, it seems, understood that the Russian Labor People's Party, as an anti-Soviet organization, did not suit them, and in June 1942, they dissolved it.

I personally was already at Wuhlheide at the propaganda courses when the party was dissolved, as I had been transferred there from the Hammelburg camp by the Germans in April.

QUESTION: What are these courses for propagandists? Tell us about them in detail.

ANSWER: The courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide were organized by the Propaganda Division of the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces at the end of 1941 or the beginning of 1942, I find it difficult to say, since by the time I arrived in Wuhlheide (April of 1942) the courses were already up and running. The head of the courses was a German, von der ROPP, and his deputy was a German, LANGE. The assistant to the head of the courses for the academic section was a former military service member of the Red Army, Major General BOGDANOV. The commandant of the camp where the courses were held was the former leader of the Mechanized Division of one of the Soviet Armies, Colonel ANTONOV.

There were approximately 200 people in the courses, recruited by the Germans from among the anti-Soviet-leaning former military service members of the Red Army located in camps. The students were divided into 9 or 10 academic groups and each of these groups had a separate leader.

I remember that the leaders of these academic groups were former military service members of the Red Army: Major General MALYSHKIN, Colonel BUSHMANOV, Major PSHENICHNY, Captain SAMYGIN, Sr. Lt. ROZHANOVSKY, Lieutenants AKHMINOV, SEROSTANOV, ROMASHKIN, and ARSENYEV, and political worker KHARCHEV.

The time period for studying in the courses was 2–3 months.

QUESTION: Who were the Germans training in the courses for propagandists at Wuhlheide?

ANSWER: In these courses, fascist propagandists were trained who were then sent to camps for POWs, where they

conducted anti-Soviet propaganda. The main subject taught in the courses was National Socialism. Lectures on this topic were given by von der ROPP. In addition to this, the students attended lectures on the following topics: "On Race," "On the Jews," "On Culture and Civilization," and "On the Fellowship of Peoples." All these "lectures" had a blatant anti-Soviet character and contained slander against the Soviet order and the communist party. The courses also taught the German language and included physical training. Periodically, excursions were organized for students in the courses to go to German industrial enterprises and the farms of German kulaks.

QUESTION: What did your anti-Soviet activity in the propaganda courses at Wuhlheide entail?

ANSWER: In April 1942, when we all arrived in Wuhlheide from Hammelburg, the 30 party activists traveling with us were immediately enrolled in the courses, but MALTSEV, FILIPPOV, SVERCHKOV, IOGANSON, ZHIVOGLYADOV, and I were housed in a separate room, waiting for the talks to begin. However, no talks had been held by June 1942, and in the middle of June, the Germans informed us that the Russian Labor People's Party was being dissolved and there would be no talks. At the end of June, I fell ill and was sent to a hospital where I remained for two months. At the beginning of September 1942, when I returned to Wuhlheide, IOGANSON and SVERCHKOV were already gone—they had been sent somewhere. MALTSEV, FILIPPOV, and ZHIVOGLYADOV were still there, but I was no longer housed with them.

After my arrival at Wuhlheide, I did not do anything for the first two weeks, and somewhere in the third week of September 1942 the German commandant of the camp, Rotmister WEISBECK, appointed me the head of a special school for youth organized by the Germans in the camp.

QUESTION: What was this school for youth?

ANSWER: This school brought together teenage boys ages 13–16, mostly former students of Soviet trade schools that the Germans had driven into camps and held there as POWs. In total, there were about 200 such young men in the school. The school for youth was under the German youth fascist organization "Hitler Jugend" (Hitler Youth),[101] and prepared students to enroll in the courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide. The students were divided into companies and attended classes daily.

QUESTION: What were the young men taught in this school for youth?

ANSWER: The school had instructors that gave lectures to the teens. Specifically, former military service member of the Red Army Lieutenant KHARCHEV, who was later the head of one of the departments in the editorial staff of the anti-Soviet newspaper "Dawn" [*Zarya*] put out by the Germans, gave lectures on literature; former Captain of the Red Army KALININ taught Russian "history"; and former lieutenant CHUDINOV conducted lessons in physical education. The German language was also taught. At the end of November 1942, on the instruction of the Germans, all those studying at the school were sent to work in agriculture and the school was liquidated.

QUESTION: And what connection did you have with the courses for propagandists during your work as the head of the school for youth?

ANSWER: I had no connection to the courses for propagandists.

QUESTION: You are not telling the truth. The investigation is aware that you, as the head of the school for youth, simultaneously gave anti-Soviet lectures in the courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide. Why are you hiding this?

ANSWER: During the time I was head of the school for youth, I gave no lectures in the courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide.

QUESTION: In that case, you are being read the testimony of the arrested KARABANOV Evgeny Gavrilovich, which incriminates you:

" … BLAGOVESCHENSKY, whose name and patronymic I do not remember, … former head of the Libava Naval School PVO, Major General. In the Wuhlheide camp for POWs, he was the head of a youth school and simultaneously taught students following the program for national socialism in the school for propagandists … "

What do you say to that?

ANSWER: KARABANOV is testifying incorrectly. In the period that I was the head of the youth school, I gave no lectures in the courses for propagandists, and especially not on national socialism. I did give lectures in the courses for propagandists, but that was at the end of December 1942, at the time when I was the

editor of the anti-Soviet newspaper *Dawn*. I traveled from Berlin with MALYSHKIN and ZYKOV specifically to give these lectures.

QUESTION: And when did the Germans appoint you to the post of editor of the newspaper *Dawn*?

ANSWER: Soon after the liquidation of the school for youth in Wuhlheide, a representative of the Propaganda Division of the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces, Captain STRIK-STRIKFELD, arrived from Berlin. He called me in and, after becoming acquainted with my biographical data, offered me the job of executive editor of the newspaper *Dawn*, which was issued by the Propaganda Division of the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces. I agreed with STRIK-STRIKFELD's proposal and was soon transferred to Berlin, to Viktoriastrasse 10 (in the building of the Nord Stern Hotel), where the offices of the Propaganda Division of the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces were located, along with the editorial staff of various anti-Soviet newspapers published by the Germans to be distributed among Russian military POWs and the population of the Soviet territory occupied by the Germans.

It should be pointed out that it was in this hotel, in December 1942, that I first met with Lieutenant General of the Red Army VLASOV Andrei Andreevich, who, as it turned out, also lived in that hotel.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances did this meeting with VLASOV take place?

ANSWER: Two or three days after my arrival in Berlin, I was called in to one of the rooms of the hotel and when I arrived, both STRIK-STRIKFELD and VLASOV were present. STRIK-STRIKFELD introduced me to VLASOV and in the ensuing conversation, VLASOV stated that he had decided to fight against the Soviet regime in an organized way. This fight would be led by the Russian Committee that he was planning and would be under his—VLASOV's—leadership. The committee was to issue a manifesto to the Russian POWs with an explanation of the goals and missions of the fight against the Bolsheviks which would contain a political platform.

VLASOV did not speak of the detailed activity of the Russian Committee at that time, telling me only that I could learn more of the political platform of the Russian Committee later, by reading the manifesto which would soon be published. Continuing the conversation, VLASOV stated that because the newspaper

"Clarion" [*Klich*] that the Germans were publishing for the POWs was not adequately meeting the need for such a newspaper, it was decided that the Russian Committee would publish its own newspaper, *Dawn*, which would be the mouthpiece of the Russian Committee and would broadly publicize its activity.

After this, VLASOV asked my opinion regarding his proposal of an organization for the fight against the Bolsheviks and whether I wanted to join this "movement." On receiving a positive answer, VLASOV states that I would be tasked with organizing the publication of *Dawn* as the executive editor. I also agreed to this proposal of VLASOV, and on 1 January 1943, I released the first issue of *Dawn*.

QUESTION: Who besides you worked on the editorial staff of the newspaper *Dawn*?

ANSWER: In total, there were 10 people on the editorial staff. The head of the historical department was former Sr. Lt. of the Red Army ROZHANOVSKY; the literature department was led by military engineer SAMYGIN Mikhail Mikhailovich, who wrote articles for the newspaper under the pseudonyms Chaikin and Afanasyev. The "Soviet reality" department was headed by KHARCHEV, who had been transferred for work in editing from the courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide together with his assistant, former Lieutenant of the Red Army SEROSTANOV.

In the newspaper *Dawn*, various slanderous articles misrepresenting the conditions in the Soviet Union were printed, calling on military POWs to fight against the Soviet regime and join the Russian Liberation Army. The newspaper also contained bulletins from the German information bureau that misrepresented the true conditions at the front.

QUESTION: Did you, as executive editor, also place articles in this newspaper?

ANSWER: Yes, my articles were printed in the newspaper *Dawn* several times. Those articles, just like all the other articles in the newspaper, were of an anti-Soviet nature and were directed against the leaders of the Soviet government. I usually signed my articles with the pseudonym Ksanin, and as the executive director of the newspaper *Dawn*, I used my real last name, BLAGOVESCHENSKY.

QUESTION: You testified that the newspaper *Dawn*, which you edited, was the mouthpiece of the Russian Committee. When was this committee created?

ANSWER: The Russian Committee was created at the end of December 1942.

In the last days of December 1942, an address was issued to Red Army soldiers and officers and to the Russian people in the name of VLASOV, as the chair of the Russian Committee, and of former General of the Red Army MALYSHKIN, who had arrived by that time from Wuhlheide to Berlin and who called himself the secretary of the Russian Committee. In this address, it was stated that in the city of Smolensk under the leadership of VLASOV a Russian Committee had been created that sought the overthrow of the Soviet government, the destruction of the Bolshevik party, the creation in Russia of a new Russian government, and the signing of an honorable peace with Germany. Typographical copies of this address were printed in the offices of the newspaper *Dawn* and spread by the Germans on a large scale in the camps for military POWs and dropped from German airplanes over the front lines. The address was simultaneously published in the newspaper *Dawn* itself.

In addition to this, in connection with the creation of the Russian Committee, there was a broad roll-out of agitation from the propagandists that had studied in the propaganda courses in Wuhlheide. For this reason, all the cadets finishing the propaganda courses were detained for several days at Wuhlheide and MALYSHKIN, ZYKOV, and I went there to conduct classes with the cadets on the goals and missions of the Russian Committee, so that when they departed from Wuhlheide and dispersed to various other camps they would be able to tell the POWs more about it.

On 4 or 5 February 1943, ZYKOV, MALYSHKIN, and I, along with the commandant of the propaganda courses in Wuhlheide, former Colonel of the Red Army ANTONOV Georgii Ilyich, and all the workers at the offices of the *Dawn* newspaper, took an oath of loyalty to the Russian Committee, headed by the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces. The oath was received by the head of the Propaganda Division of the Supreme Command of the German Armed Forces, Colonel of the German army MARTIN, in the presence of STRIK-STRIKFELD and VLASOV.

To take the oath, we were all called into a separate building where STRIK-STRIKFELD read the text of the oath before the formation, after which each of us signed it. After everyone had

signed the oath, Colonel MARTIN gave a short speech, calling on us to fight actively against the Bolsheviks and be loyal to Hitler, and then he shook each of our hands, congratulated us on taking the oath, and wished us success in our work.

With the taking of this oath, my service in the so-called Russian Liberation Army essentially began. Soon I, along with VLASOV's other followers, was outfitted in the uniform of the German army and had the possibility to live freely outside the POW camp.

QUESTION: What position did you hold in the Russian Liberation Army?

ANSWER: After the creation of the Russian Committee and taking the oath, I continued in my position as executive editor of the newspaper *Dawn* until March 1943. In March 1943, the Germans, at VLASOV's suggestion, appointed me the head of the Dabendorf courses for propagandists under the Russian Liberation Army.

QUESTION: Who was trained at the Dabendorf courses?

ANSWER: Under my leadership at the Dabendorf courses, propagandists were trained from among the POWs, and they were given the following mission: after completion of studies in the courses and on arrival at a POW camp, they were to use anti-Soviet agitation to sway POWs to the fight against the Soviet regime and to join the Russian Liberation Army.

QUESTION: How was the training in these courses organized?

ANSWER: In the Dabendorf courses for propagandists of which I was the head, there were usually between 200 and 400 students enrolled, selected from among the POWs of former Red Army military service members, preferably with a high school education.

My deputy at the courses was TRUKHIN, appointed to this post in April 1943. The head of the academic division was former Colonel of the Red Army BUSHMANOV Nikolai Stepanovich; the head of facilities was former colonel and artillery specialist in the Red Army VLASOV Kuzma Sergeevich.[102]

The senior instructors in the courses were former service members of the Red Army: Lieutenant ZAITSEV Nikolai Aleksandrovich and SHTIFANOV Nikolai Grigorievich, author of the anti-Soviet brochure "The Truth about Bolshevism." In addition to them, other instructors included former Red Army

military service members ARSENYEV Vasily, Sr. Lt. LIVENTSOV, and Captain PADUNOV. Those enrolled in the courses were broken up into companies that were commanded by former military service members of the Red Army: Colonel POZDNYAKOV, Majors PSHENICHNY, SADOVNIKOV, and KUSKOV, and Captain KHITROV. They all also conducted seminars that continued the anti-Soviet themes put forth in the lectures.

QUESTION: Who put together the syllabi and program of study?

ANSWER: The program of study was put together by MALYSHKIN, and TRUKHIN and BUSHMANOV worked on putting together the syllabi and schedule of classes. TRUKHIN also gave lectures in the courses on military history.

QUESTION: But you also had something to do with putting together the program, syllabi, and schedule of classes, did you not?

ANSWER: I had nothing to do with putting together the program of study in the courses since that program had been released by the Russian Committee. TRUKHIN and BUSHMANOV did consult with me, as head of the courses, regarding the syllabi and schedule of classes, which they put together and I approved.

QUESTION: Which section of the program had most hours of study dedicated to it?

ANSWER: In the courses, lectures were given on the following topics: "The Foundations of Building a New Russia," which was taught by ZAITSEV, PSHENICHNY and SHTIFANOV, and "Military History," which, as I indicated earlier, was taught by TRUKHIN. There were also classes on the study of the German language and classes in physical education. Periodically, MALYSHKIN and ZYKOV would come to the school to give lectures. MALYSHKIN gave a lecture on the topic of "England as a Historical Enemy of Russia," and ZYKOV gave one called "About Soviet Economics," in which he tried to prove that the economy of the Soviet Union was headed for a crash, as well as anti-Soviet lectures "on Bolshevism." In addition to this, ZYKOV sometimes gave speeches to the cadets that provided an overview of international events, extolling the praises of Germany's position and underscoring the "untenable" position of the Soviet Union. However, the main subject of the courses was considered to be

"The Foundations of Building a New Russia," and therefore classes on that topic were given the majority of academic hours.

This came about because the Dabendorf courses for propagandists, as courses of the Russian Liberation Army, made it their goal to foster hatred for the Soviet regime among the cadets and to prove to them the inadequacy of the Soviet system and the need to fight against the Soviet regime for the creation of "New Russia," all in order to enable the propagandists who completed these courses to work most productively.

QUESTION: Where were the propagandists usually sent for their anti-Soviet work upon completion of the courses?

ANSWER: Upon completion of the courses, the propagandists who were prepared to conduct anti-Soviet lectures were sent to camps for military POWs and into military units formed by the Germans from the POWs, where they conducted anti-Soviet propaganda, calling for people to join the Russian Liberation Army in order to cooperate with the Germans in waging the fight against the Soviet regime. Specifically, the propagandists from the Dabendorf courses were sent to POW camps and military units formed by the Germans from POWs that were located on the Soviet-German front, in France, Italy, Norway, Belgium and in the occupied territories of the Soviet Union—in short, in almost all areas where there were POWs from the Red Army.

QUESTION: How many propagandists were trained in the Dabendorf courses?

ANSWER: Keeping in mind that after the first graduation—of 250 propagandists—in May 1943, the number of students in the courses was increased to 300–350 persons, and there were over the duration of the courses some 10 or 11 graduating classes, then, consequently, in the Dabendorf courses (which were later moved to Buchau), more than 3,000 propagandists were trained. The graduation of those finishing the courses for propagandists was usually held as a ceremony. VLASOV and MALYSHKIN always came to the celebratory graduation party; a parade of students was arranged in their "honor" and then VLASOV gave a commencement speech to the students, calling on them to, in the forthcoming work in close contact with the Germans, actively conduct agitation to attract military personnel to the Russian Liberation Army for the fight against the Soviet regime,

QUESTION: For what period of time were you the head of the Dabendorf courses for propagandists?

ANSWER: I was the head of the Dabendorf courses for propagandists from March through June of 1943. During that time there was only one graduating group, of 250 propagandists. In June 1943, STRIK-STRIKFELD offered me leave, and I, handing the leadership of the courses off to TRUKHIN, left for Kaunas to see my older brother, Boris Alekseevich BLAGOVESCHENSKY, who had been living there since 1914, where I remained for a period of six months—that is, until December 1943.

In December 1943, STRIK-STRIKFELD's deputy, the German DELINHAUSEN, called me from Kaunas to Berlin, where upon my arrival he informed me that I was being appointed to the post of head of the inspection group for control of the work of propagandists of the Russian Liberation Army.

QUESTION: When was this inspection group formed?

ANSWER: The inspection group was formed at the end of 1943. They appointed me as head of the inspection group, as I already testified, and my deputy was Major General of the Red Army BOGDANOV Mikhail Vasilyevich, who was located in a German POW camp. Three people worked in the headquarters of the inspection group: the executive officer, the secretary, and the typist. At first, the executive officer was former colonel of the Red Army KOIDA, and then later Major LEVANDOVSKY, and recently Lt. Colonel PANKEVICH. The head of the front office was first Lieutenant BELYAKOV, and later Lieutenant DRAPAKOV. The typist was a woman with my last name, BLAGOVESCHENSKAYA Tatyana Borisovna, a teacher from Rostov-on-Don, who herself wrote me a letter asking me to give her a job.

In the group, there were eight inspectors, whose duties included controlling propagandists and sending them to work by going out to the camps. I, as the head of the inspection group, led the work of the inspectors under me. After returning from an inspection trip, the inspectors wrote up reports on the results of their work and submitted them to the headquarters, where cumulative reports were subsequently compiled on the state of the work of propagandists on site. Later, this report was given to me for review and after my review was sent to Berlin to VLASOV (I myself was located with the inspection group in Dabendorf).

QUESTION: Who were the inspectors in the inspection group?

ANSWER: As I testified earlier, there were eight inspectors: Major General BOGDANOV Mikhail Vasilyevich, Major General SEVASTYANOV Andrei Nikitich, Colonels ANTONOV Georgii Ilyich, KOIDA, ZVEREV, TAVANTSEV, and Lt. Colonels KARBUKOV and SHATOV,[103] whose names and patronymics I do not remember. During the period they were working as inspectors, all of them traveled more than once to the camps of military POWs to check the propagandists' work and give them instruction.

Thus, for example, at the end of 1943, BOGDANOV went out to a camp in the area of the city of Hamburg, and in 1944 he traveled with ANTONOV to Riga. At the end of 1943 and in 1944, SEVASTYANOV traveled out to control the work of propagandists in camps in the territory of Belgium and France. In 1944, KOIDA traveled to Austria to one of the camps in the area of Vienna. ZVEREV visited several camps for military POWs (I do not now remember exactly which) located in German territory, and at the end of 1944, he traveled to Norway. TAVANTSEV and KARBUKOV also traveled, but when and where exactly I do not now remember.

It should be pointed out that the inspectors, when they visited the camps, were not only checking on and giving instruction to the propagandists, but also themselves giving anti-Soviet lectures and reports calling the POWs to fight against the Soviet regime and to join the Russian Liberation Army, though it was not strictly part of their function. ANTONOV and KOIDA did this particularly often.

Later, at the end of 1944, when the Germans allowed VLASOV to form military units of the Russian Liberation Army, the functions of the inspectors changed. I personally, though I no longer had any connection to the inspection groups by that time, nevertheless know that in addition to checking and instructing the propagandists, inspectors were also directly involved in recruiting and with the selection of individuals for units of the Russian Liberation Army when they visited the camps. Thus, for example, ZVEREV, at the time of his trip to Norway at the end of 1944, recruited more than 30 POWs there who arrived at Dabendorf and later joined the second division of the Russian Liberation Army, the command of which was given to ZVEREV.

QUESTION: Earlier you testified that at the end of 1944 you had no connection to the inspection group. What were you doing at that time?

ANSWER: In November 1944, VLASOV, at the instruction of the Germans, was organizing the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which was supposed to represent the new "Russian government," and in connection with that, I was given new work within this committee.

QUESTION: Do you know the details of the creation by the Germans of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Yes, I do. Around the end of summer 1944, VLASOV had a meeting with HIMMLER and, as he later described it, HIMMLER—speaking for the German government—proposed that VLASOV head up the entire anti-Soviet activity of the various anti-Soviet nationalist groups and organizations that existed in Germany and in the territories occupied by German forces at that point. [The idea was] to unite all these anti-Soviet nationalist organizations and groups under one large organization that they would call the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and to spread ever wider the fight against the Soviet regime.

HIMMLER, according to VLASOV, told him at the time that in his position as the leader of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia he would control: all existing military units and sub-units created by the German command from POWs, all leadership of propaganda within the camps, and observance over all camps "EAST" in which Soviet citizens were held to work in German industries.

VLASOV accepted this proposal from HIMMLER and set to the creation of the committee. At the same time, HIMMLER informed VLASOV of the German government's decision to form the Russian Liberation Army from military POWs and Soviet citizens working in German industries.

By mid-November 1944, VLASOV had created the committee. It included VLASOV as the chair of the presidium, MALYSHKIN as the deputy chair of the presidium, TRUKHIN as the executive officer of the Russian Liberation Army, ZHILENKOV, ZAKUTNY, BOYARSKY, MIANDROV, ZAITSEV, SCHENNIKOV, and about 50 other individuals (whose names I do not know), among them Russian emigrants, generals of the White and Imperial Armies

ABRAMOV and BALABIN, and representatives of various anti-Soviet nationalist parties and organizations: the Ukrainian Rada, the Turkestani Committee, and others. On 14 November, 1944 in Prague (Czechoslovakia), they held an opening of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, at which, in addition to the committee members, there were many guests present—representatives of various anti-Soviet organizations, emigrants, and the "German community," which was mainly representatives of the SS.

At the opening, the Manifesto of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which slandered the Soviet order, the leaders of the party, and the government and mentioned the need to fight actively against the Soviet regime and Bolshevism, was read. At the opening, there was a ceremonious signing of the manifesto by members of the committee, and later it was confirmed by the presidium of the committee.

QUESTION: Who were the members of the presidium of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: The presidium membership included: VLASOV as chair of the presidium, MALYSHKIN as secretary, and ZAKUTNY, TRUKHIN, ZHILENKOV, BOYARSKY, MIANDROV, the White Guard General ABRAMOV and several other people whose names I do not know (ten people in all).

QUESTION: What was the structure of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Under the committee, three branches were created: an organizational branch headed by MALYSHKIN, a civilian branch led by ZAKUTNY, and propaganda headed by ZHILENKOV.

QUESTION: And what anti-Soviet activity did you conduct within the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: I was appointed by VLASOV as the head of the so-called "ideological" group of the propaganda branch of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

QUESTION: What specifically did you do as the head of this "ideological" branch?

ANSWER: Under the leadership of ZHILENKOV, I was to work up theoretical foundations and an agenda for the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. For this purpose, I needed to gather around myself a group of several people from among the Russian professors and scholars cooperating with the

Germans for an Academic Council that could undertake the compilation of the theoretical foundations and agenda for the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. However, I was able to draw into the "ideological" group only technical personnel: the head of the front office, former officer of the Imperial Army SINYAKOV, secretary and typist BLAGOVESCHENSKAYA Tatyana Borisovna, typist SHUMILOVA Valentina Petrovna, who had left Kharkov with the Germans in 1942, a clerk named KOSTIUKOV Valentin, and two couriers.

I did not have time to put together the Academic Council itself, since in February 1945 the entire staff of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia was forced to leave Berlin and to the end I did not have an opportunity to settle anywhere and calmly continue my work.

QUESTION: Because you were being pursued by the advancing units of the Red Army?

ANSWER: Yes, the Red Army was already approaching Berlin, and the situation there was difficult. For this reason, a panic began among the members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, with many leaving alone or in groups to the south and the border with Switzerland, counting on getting to territory where the Allied Forces were to arrive.

All three branches of the committee, headed by MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and ZAKUTNY, left Berlin on 4 February, 1945 and headed to Karlsbad. I, along with the staff of the "ideological" group, also moved, first to Karlsbad and then, on 7 February, 1945, on the instruction of ZHILENKOV, to Marienbad, where the organizational branch arrived shortly afterwards, along with the personnel department and several departments of the Propaganda Administration.

QUESTION: What did the departments that arrived in Marienbad do?

ANSWER: The Press Department, on arriving in Marienbad, organized the publication of anti-Soviet leaflets and bulletins. The Propaganda Department conducted agitation work among the Soviet citizens located in the "EAST" camps and driven to Germany by the Germans to be put to work. I myself was appointed by ZHILENKOV and MALYSHKIN as head of the garrison of all the Russians there that were connected with the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, and I

arranged for the selection of housing and procuring provisions. My "ideological" group was never organized.

In April 1945, I was called by ZHILENKOV to Karlsbad for a meeting of the department heads of the Propaganda Administration of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, at which ZHILENKOV announced that the fight against the Bolsheviks was not over and that the members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia should go underground and continue their work. After the meeting, ZHILENKOV and MALYSHKIN left for the city of Innsbruck, near the Italian border, hoping to find shelter there, and I returned to Marienbad. VLASOV soon arrived in Marienbad and, on meeting me, appointed me the representative of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in Marienbad.

QUESTION: With what functions?

ANSWER: VLASOV gave me a document in which it was indicated that I was VLASOV's deputy and authorized by the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia to conduct negotiations with the command of the American forces regarding offering asylum to members of the committee, for which, VLASOV said, there was already an existing agreement with the Americans. VLASOV also told me that in a short time he would come to me again and give me more detailed instructions, but he did not come to Marienbad again after that and I never managed to meet with him.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a document in your name and signed by VLASOV. Is this the document to which you refer?

ANSWER: Yes, this is the same document that VLASOV gave me when I met with him in Marienbad in April 1945.

QUESTION: Did you fulfill the assignment that VLASOV gave you to establish contact with the Americans?

ANSWER: After the advance of the American forces into Marienbad, I had a meeting with the military commandant of the city, a captain of the American forces whose name I do not know. I told him that I was a representative of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and presented the document given to me by VLASOV with the right to conduct negotiations in the name of the committee with the Americans. However, the commandant said nothing of note regarding my statement, and suggested that I await further instructions and not take any

actions until then, and shortly afterwards (on 3 June, 1945), I was arrested by members of the Soviet command and taken to Moscow.

The transcript has been recorded accurately from my words and read by me.

Blagoveschensky

Interrogated by: Sr. investigator of the Main Directorate "SMERSH"

Major Martynov

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. L. 1–41. Original.

6. Transcripts of the interrogations of D. Ye. Zakutny and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 6.1. Transcript of the interrogation of D. Ye. Zakutny.

31 January, 1946

INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested ZAKUTNY Dmitrii Yefimovich

ZAKUTNY, D. Ye., born 1897 in the city of Zimovniki, Rostov District, Russian, citizen of the USSR, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1919, former commander of the 21st Rifle Corps, Major General.

QUESTION: You were arrested on the territory of Germany as a traitor to the homeland. How did you end up with the Germans?

ANSWER: In 1941, I surrendered to the Germans, was in various camps, and then was freed from imprisonment and served in German institutions.

QUESTION: When did you surrender to the Germans?

ANSWER: On 21 July, 1941, on the orders of the Military Council of the 21st Army, I was appointed commander of the 21st Rifle Corps, which included the 87th and 117th Rifle Divisions. On 26 July, 1941, my corps was surrounded by the German forces near the villages of Bolshaya and Malaya Zimnitsa in Gomel District. While we were breaking through the encirclement, commander of the 117th division Major KHINZHNYAK and I and the scouting battalion of this division were cut off by the Germans, as a result of which I lost control of the corps.

KHINZHNYAK and the scouting battalion moved ahead, trying to establish communications with the units of the corps, and I, with the rest of that battalion, fell under machine gun fire from the enemy. I was unable to move and was forced to take cover. Sometime later, a Red Army soldier with me whose name I do not remember reported that behind us there were signs of the Germans. At first I ordered the soldier not to give up our position, but as the German gunners approached us, I stood and, without offering any resistance, surrendered to the Germans.

QUESTION: Did the Germans know that you were a general of the Red Army?

ANSWER: Yes, they knew. I was taken prisoner in the uniform of a general and with all my personal identification.

QUESTION: Who among the Germans interrogated you?

ANSWER: After my capture, the Germans took me to a camp for military POWs located in the city of Lodz (Poland), where after a few days I was called in for interrogation by the head of the camp, a German Lt. Colonel whose name I do not know.

QUESTION: What did the German Lt. Colonel ask you about?

ANSWER: In the interrogation, the Lt. Colonel asked about my biography, the circumstances of my capture, information about the armaments of the Red Army, the military industry of the Soviet Union, military plans of the Red Army command, and also about the political situation in the Soviet Union, whether an uprising leading to the formation of a new government was possible there, and who might lead this government.

QUESTION: What did you tell the Germans?

ANSWER: I answered all the questions asked of me based on the information I had at the time. Concerning my answers to the political situation in the Soviet Union, I slanderously stated that the Russian people were dissatisfied with the policy of the party and the Soviet government. A political overthrow within the country, I told the Germans, was unlikely, since there was no organization of opposition forces and any demonstration of dissatisfaction was immediately put down by the government apparatus. Adding to that, I said that an overthrow could be organized only from the outside, after the Germans formed a new Russian government in Moscow or Leningrad after these cities were taken by the German Army.

I recommended to the Germans that if they formed a Russian government, it should be formed from individuals who were well known among the Russian people. I tried to convince the Lt. Colonel that such a government would undoubtedly be supported by the Soviet people. I recommended that the government formed by the Germans make a declaration reflecting such issues as the fight against the Communist Party and the Soviet government and against STALIN personally, that it should state the establishment of a fascist regime in the country, political and economic cooperation with Germany, free trade, private land ownership, and the nationalization of large industry and the railroad.

QUESTION: Did the German write down your answers?

ANSWER: Yes, he recorded my testimony.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a German document titled "Interrogation of military prisoner Major General ZAKUTNY." Is this the testimony you gave the Germans?

ANSWER: Yes, the document I read contains in writing the testimony that I gave to the Germans.

QUESTION: In the interrogation with the Germans, you slandered the party and the Soviet government. When did these anti-Soviet feelings appear in you?

ANSWER: I had anti-Soviet leanings already before I ended up prisoner of the Germans.

QUESTION: What was the reason for this?

ANSWER: In the beginning of July 1941, my corps and I wound up encircled for the first time in the area of Lida. Because of the temporary failures of the Red Army, I began to have doubts about the victory of the Soviet Union, and what's more, I assessed these failures as the result of incorrect leadership of the Soviet forces by the Main Command of the Red Army and the faulty policies of the Soviet government.

It seemed to me that it was the agreement reached with Germany in 1939 that led to the Germans enjoying a reprieve, and that for two years, while receiving food supplies and industrial raw materials from the USSR, they were preparing themselves for this war. While I was imprisoned by the Germans, my anti-Soviet feelings grew stronger and I set off on the path to openly fighting against the party and the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: How did your enemy activity against the Soviet regime begin?

ANSWER: In September 1941, I was taken from Lodz to Hammelburg (Germany), where I was housed in an officers' camp for military prisoners in which there were other generals of the Red Army: former commander of the Cossack corps of the Belorussian Military District Major General NIKITIN Ivan Semyonovich; former commander of the Libava Academy Major General BLAGOVESCHENSKY; former commander of the of the 3rd Rifle Corps Major General YEGOROV Yevgeny, whose patronymic I do not know; and former commander of the cavalry division Major General ZYBIN.

Later, in October 1941, there arrived a former commander of a rifle division, Major General TKACHENKO, whose name and patronymic I do not know. In October 1941, there were already around 12 Red Army generals in the camp. We were all housed in

three rooms, and I shared a room with TRUKHIN, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, NIKITIN, and YEGOROV. In the camp we often got together, usually in the room where I lived, and had anti-Soviet conversations that led to slander of the leaders of the party and the Soviet government. For example, NIKITIN accused the Soviet government of not being able to fight a war. He said that if the Red Army suffered defeat in combat on the border, then the blame for that lay not with the Red Army, but with the Soviet government.

This opinion was shared by myself, TRUKHIN, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, YEGOROV, and ZYBIN, and we in turn confirmed that we had fallen into German hands due to the incorrect actions of the Soviet government in the war with Germany. In these conversations, we had especially harsh words for the leaders of the party and the Soviet government. TKACHENKO, who said that he was a Ukrainian nationalist, said that if the existing Soviet government were to be overthrown and a new bourgeois government formed in its place, he would support that government, and he would also join the nationalist units formed by the Germans to actively fight against the Soviet regime. Supporting the anti-Soviet statements of NIKITIN, TKACHENKO, and others, in conversation with YEGOROV I said that the future Russian government should be formed from people with Russian names who were popular and well-known to everyone in Soviet society and capable of changing the existing government order. YEGOROV fully agreed with my position and said that he would also support such a government.

In October, 1941, I was called away for several days to an interrogation with people from Abwehr whose names I do not know.

QUESTION: What did you tell the Germans during these interrogations?

ANSWER: At these interrogations, the German officer interrogating me spoke Russian well, and after filling out data on forms, he asked me my political views—asked whether I was a committed communist and what I would think of a new national Russian government if the Germans formed one. I answered that I was disappointed in the communist party, and that if the Germans were to form a new government, then I would think positively of that. After the interrogations, I told TRUKHIN, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and YEGOROV about them and they told

me that they had also been called in by people from Abwehr for interrogation, where they were asked the same questions and answered in the same way I did.

QUESTION: It has been established that there existed an anti-Soviet organization among the POWs in Hammelburg—the so-called Russian Labor People's Party. Were you a member of this party?

ANSWER: I did not take part in the Russian Labor People's Party at all and was not a member of this organization.

QUESTION: You are not telling the truth. The arrested YANENKO Ye. S. testified:

"ZAKUTNY was a member of the central bureau of the so-called Russian Labor People's Party created in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs."

What do you say to that?

ANSWER: I ask you to believe me that I was not even a member of the Russian Labor People's Party, let alone a member of the bureau of this anti-Soviet organization. YANENKO is lying.

QUESTION: You are being read an excerpt from the testimony of the witness TSIBULKIN G. M., who testified in an interrogation on 25 July, 1945:

"Of the organizers, leaders and active members of the RLPP, I know the following individuals: ZAKUTNY, Major General of the Red Army, former executive officer of the 21st Rifle Corps, and active member of the RLPP, appointed to the post of "military minister" in "new Russia."

Are you now going to deny your participation in the RLPP?

ANSWER: No, I deny it. TSIBULKIN is also testifying falsely.

QUESTION: You are trying in vain to minimize your criminal activity. You have additionally been identified as a participant of the RLPP by the following arrested persons: SOLOGUB M. M., MOVCHAN L. P., TRUKHIN F. I. Stop the denials and tell the truth.

ANSWER: I must admit that in the period of my stay in Hammelburg I did receive a proposal to join the Russian Labor People's Party, and this proposal was made by none other than the leader of the organization, military jurist MALTSEV, who also asked me to take part in compiling an agenda for this anti-Soviet organization, and I promised to think about it, but due to my departure from Hammelburg, I did not have the time to formalize becoming part of the RLPP.

QUESTION: Tell us in detail of your criminal connection with MALTSEV.

ANSWER: In October 1941, I was appointed by the Germans as the *starshina* of the Hammelburg camp. That same month, I was invited to the front office of the camp, where I was awaited by the leader of the RLPP, MALTSEV, former actor of the Moscow Arts Theater SVERCHKOV Sergei (I do not remember his patronymic), and some other individuals. Speaking to me, MALTSEV said that he, SVERCHKOV, and the other individuals present had decided to create an anti-Soviet organization in the camp. First and foremost, according to MALTSEV, this organization would issue an anti-Soviet newspaper for the POWs, for which they had the approval of the Germans. The newspaper, MALTSEV clarified, would be hung in the barracks and buildings of the camp, and I, as *starshina* of the camp, should arrange with the German camp administration for the preparation and installation of glass cases for the paper.

Then MALTSEV told me that he, SVERCHKOV and the other members of the anti-Soviet organization would need access not only to the Russian housing section, where the Russian POWs were kept, but also to other housing sections of the camp, and therefore it was again suggested that I arrange with the command of the camp for him, SVERCHKOV, and others to freely move about the entire camp. MALTSEV informed me that they were working up an agenda for the anti-Soviet organization, that the introductory part of the agenda had already been completed by him personally, and that many people were working on the remaining part, but he did not say who specifically by name.

MALTSEV further said that as soon as the agenda of the anti-Soviet organization had been put together, there would be an announcement of its creation in the newspaper, and then broad anti-Soviet work would commence to recruit military POWs into the organization. At the end of this conversation, MALTSEV proposed that I take part in putting together the agenda of the anti-Soviet organization. I told MALTSEV that I would think about it, and as for the preparation of the glass cases for the newspaper and passes for unrestricted movement around the camp for MALTSEV, SVERCHKOV, and the other participants of the anti-Soviet organization, I promised to speak to the camp commandant and get permission from him.

Returning to my room, I told TRUKHIN, YEGOROV, NIKITIN, and BLAGOVESCHENSKY about my conversation with MALTSEV and SVERCHKOV. YEGOROV, NIKITIN, and BLAGOVESCHENSKY told me that they had known about this organization for a long time already and that MALTSEV was doing great work in uncovering political workers of the Red Army, communists or other individuals who demonstrated animosity toward the Germans among the POWs. TRUKHIN, for some reason, did not state his opinion at that time.

On 30 October, 1941, I was moved from Hammelburg to a camp for French POWs in Lichtenfeld, in the suburbs of Berlin, and for this reason my contact with the Russian Labor People's Party temporarily ceased.

QUESTION: Were TRUKHIN, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and other generals held with you at the camp members of the RLPP?

ANSWER: Yes, TRUKHIN told me as much in February 1942 when we met again in a camp in the village of Waal (70 kilometers from Berlin). TRUKHIN told me that he, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, ZYBIN, and YEGOROV had joined the RLPP, and to prove it, he showed me a membership identification of the organization.

QUESTION: Why were you moved from Hammelburg to Lichtenfeld? Did you also conduct anti-Soviet work there?

ANSWER: In the camp for French POWs in Lichtenfeld, I was housed in a separate room. Here they called me in every day for conversation in some kind of German military office where they were studying the fortified regions of the Soviet Union and also the regulations of the Red Army. This body was headed by Germans, Major General BIRMAN and Colonel GROSSE. During these conversations with GROSSE and BIRMAN, I explained the military regulations of the Red Army to them and gave them information about the fortified regions of the Soviet Union. In addition, I gave them detailed written answers to these questions for translation into German, which was done in the military sense—with many mistakes—and needed clarification.

In February 1942, when this work was completed, I was moved to a POW camp in the village of Waal, where I met with TRUKHIN again. Around mid-March 1942, a bureaucrat from the Eastern Ministry, FRENTSEL, came to this camp and called in myself, TRUKHIN and two other former military engineers from the Red Army being held with us, TIKHANOVSKY and BALETSKY. During our conversation, FRENTSEL told us that if

we were loyal to fascist Germany and turned away forever from Bolshevik views, then he would transfer us to another camp where the living conditions would be better. In addition, in the camp where we would be taken, it would be possible to become familiar with modern Germany. FRENTSEL further said that we needed to cooperate with Germany in order to liberate Russia from Bolshevism, and that only the Germans could help the people free themselves from the Bolsheviks.

TRUKHIN, TIKHANOVSKY, BALETSKY, and I agreed to FRENTSEL's proposal and said that we had already rejected the idea of Bolshevism and were prepared to cooperate with the Germans. We asked FRENTSEL to move us to the other camp right away. A week later, TIKHANOVSKY, BALETSKY, and I were moved to a camp located in the village of Budzets, not far from the city of Fretsak, and from there we were sent to another camp located in Ziethenhorst.

QUESTION: What was the camp in Ziethenhorst like?

ANSWER: The POW camp in Ziethenhorst was under the jurisdiction of ROSENBERG. In it were held only those prisoners who had expressed a desire to serve the Germans. In essence, in Ziethenhorst there were classes of the Eastern Ministry that trained anti-Soviet personnel to work in German-occupied Soviet territory and in POW camps. Prisoners of war who arrived at the camp were divided into groups of 15–20 people, each of which attended classes in which they listened to lectures on various anti-Soviet topics.

The main topics of these lectures were: "What is National Socialism?," "Government Structure of Germany," "Government Structure of the Future Russia," and others.

The classes in the academic groups were conducted by leaders of the anti-Soviet White Guard organization, the so-called "National-Labor Union of the New Generation," the White Guard members BRUNST, REDLIKH, TREGUBOV, and YEVREINOV, and also the traitors of the homeland former lieutenant of the Red Army BABNITSKY Aleksei (I do not know his patronymic), construction engineer SHTIFANOV, alias PERSHIN (whose name and patronymic I do not know), former assistant at the Microbiological Institute under the Academy of Sciences of the USSR ZAITSEV Aleksandr Nikolaevich, former supply officers PUZANOV and TENZEROV (whose names and patronymics I do not know), and TRUKHIN.

QUESTION: How did you participate in the enemy work in Ziethenhorst?

ANSWER: When I arrived at Ziethenhorst in April 1942, I was placed in one room with TRUKHIN, former generals of the Red Army PROKHOROV [104] and LUKIN, Professor MINAEV, Doctor KRUPOVICH, Lt. Colonel SHMAKOV, and Colonel BABUSHKIN. Our room was located separately from the others.

There were up to 240 people in Ziethenhorst at the time of my arrival.

None of us were included in the academic groups, with the exception of TRUKHIN, who—as I testified earlier—was drawn into working as an instructor.

BRUNST, REDLICH, TREGUBOV, and YEVREINOV conducted conversations with us separately, at which time each of us expressed our anti-Soviet ideas, which led to the smearing of the policies of the party and the Soviet government. In particular, during the conversations on the question of current events and prospects for Germany's war against the Soviet Union, TRUKHIN, PROKHOROV, LUKIN, MINAEV, KRUPOVICH, SHMAKOV, BABUSHKIN, and I used the individual losses of the Red Army at the front to slanderously claim that the Soviet government had not prepared the country for war, as a result of which the Germans had been able to get as far as the Terek, Volga, and Neva, and in this way devastate and desolate the richest districts of the Soviet Union. In these conversations, I slanderously claimed that there was no democracy in the Soviet Union; I slandered the Soviet constitution and the collective farm system.

Supporting my anti-Soviet statements, PROKHOROV said that the winners in this war would be the English and the Americans, who would overthrow the existing order in the Soviet Union and establish capitalist practices on its territory. LUKIN said the opposite: that the Soviet regime would be overthrown only by the Germans. SHMAKOV was of this view as well.

Discussing the question of what type of government system the Soviet Union should have after the overthrow of the Soviet regime, the White émigrés BRUNST, REDLICH, YEVREINOV, and TREGUBOV told us that the future Russia should be a bourgeois government, and that at first a military dictatorship should be established.

On the whole, TRUKHIN shared the point of view of the White Guard members and said that the Soviets, as a form of

government administration, should be destroyed and that the future Russia should be only a national-bourgeois government. Professor MINAEV said that the future government order in Russia should be determined by the land council [*zemsky sobor*], which should be created immediately after the fall of the Soviet regime.

PROKHOROV, LUKIN, SHMAKOV, and I did not express a particular opinion on this issue. Nevertheless, I slanderously stated that the Soviet government headed by STALIN, not deserving the trust of the people of the Soviet Union, should remove itself or be forcibly overthrown, and in its place a government should be formed that could change the domestic and foreign policies of the country alike and that would be based solely on the Russian people. My point of view was supported by PROKHOROV, LUKIN, and SHMAKOV.

In January 1943, PROKHOROV, LUKIN, SHMAKOV, and I, with the assistance of the White Guard members REDLIKH and BRUNST from the Ziethenhorst camp were freed and placed in a so-called free camp in Wustrau. TRUKHIN had been freed from the camp with their help somewhat earlier, and he was sent to Wustrau like us.

QUESTION: And where were MINAEV, KRUPOVICH, and BABUSHKIN sent?

ANSWER: KRUPOVICH and MINAEV were also freed from the Ziethenhorst camp with the help of BRUNST and REDLIKH in June 1942 and sent to the camp in Wustrau, where KRUPOVICH worked as the senior doctor and MINAEV as the head of the library. I do not know when BABUSHKIN was freed from the Ziethenhorst camp.

QUESTION: How was the Wustrau camp different from the other camps?

ANSWER: The camp in Wustrau was central relative to the other camps of the Eastern Ministry. In this camp there were again only individuals who had expressed voluntary desire to serve the Germans. After appropriate evaluation and training, the POWs who had already recommended themselves through practical anti-Soviet work were sent by the Eastern Ministry for work, mainly as propagandists in German-occupied Soviet territory.

In essence, the camp in Wustrau was a place where the anti-Soviet cadres were gathered together. The entire camp was divided into groups according to ethnicity: Russian, Ukrainian,

Belorussian, and other ethnicities. In each of these groups, classes were conducted in which lectures with anti-Soviet content were given. In the Russian group, classes were conducted by TRUKHIN, ZAITSEV, SHTIFANOV, TENZEROV, and the White émigrés REDLIKH, PAREMSKY, YEVREINOV, and BRUNST, [the latter being] the main leader of the Russian group.

QUESTION: What enemy work did you undertake in Wustrau?

ANSWER: On the orders of REDLIKH, two or three times I wrote an overview of military action from German newspaper sources for the military POWs of the Russian group. In my surveys, I praised the German army and predicted the defeat of Soviet forces and the victory of Germany.

QUESTION: You not only did surveys of military action, but you also gave lectures on other anti-Soviet topics. Talk about that.

ANSWER: With the exception of the surveys of military action, I gave no other anti-Soviet lectures at the Wustrau camp.

QUESTION: That is not true. I submit an excerpt from the testimony of the arrested BRUNST, who in an interrogation on 20 July, 1945, testified:

"In Wustrau, ZAKUTNY gave anti-Soviet lectures to the POWs in which slander was spread against the collective farms, living conditions, and material conditions of the workers of the USSR and the Red Army."

Did you not give these lectures?

ANSWER: BRUNST obviously means my surveys of military activity, which I did for the prisoners of the Russian group. I gave no other lectures on anti-Soviet topics in Wustrau.

QUESTION: What other enemy work did you conduct in Wustrau?

ANSWER: Nothing else, since in February 1943, I began work at an agency called "Jumneta" that existed under the Eastern Ministry, as the editor of anti-Soviet literature.

QUESTION: What was the function of this agency?

ANSWER: Jumneta was in charge of anti-Soviet propaganda: it put together anti-Soviet brochures, leaflets, various proclamations, and posters, and spread this literature among the population living in the German-occupied Soviet territory, among Soviet citizens forcibly driven into Germany, and also among the soldiers and officers of the Red Army at the front.

QUESTION: Who helped you to get your position at Jumneta?

ANSWER: At the beginning of February 1943, REDLIKH, one of the leaders of RLPP and a White guardsman working as an instructor in Wustrau, called me to him. REDLIKH began our conversation by telling me that the head of the Jumneta group, a German named BIRK, who used to live in Russia and spoke Russian well, asked him to find someone from among the former commissars of the Red Army who could read manuscripts coming into Jumneta of various anti-Soviet brochures and leaflets, and then give a summary report of them as to how much certain material could be useful to spread among the Soviet citizenry.

When I asked REDLIKH why specifically a former commissar of the Red Army was needed for this work, he answered that commissars of the Red Army knew the methods and forms of propaganda in the Soviet Union; they know the psychology of the Soviet person and how best to handle such work.

Continuing the conversation, REDLIKH told me that if I agreed, he would recommend me to BIRK for this job. I said that I was not familiar with this kind of work, I had never done it before, and I was afraid that I would not live up to the trust placed in me. To this REDLIKH answered that he and BRUNST had already worked in this agency, there was nothing difficult there, and no special knowledge was required. At that time, I did not give a positive answer to REDLIKH's proposal, promising to think it over, but the next day I told him that I agreed.

QUESTION: Why did REDLIKH come to you specifically with this proposal, since you were not a commissar of the Red Army?

ANSWER: REDLIKH was fairly familiar with my anti-Soviet convictions, and in addition, he respected me as a former general of the Red Army. Obviously, this is the reason that he offered me the job in Jumneta. Soon after the conversation with REDLIKH, roughly 7 February 1943, BIRK came to Wustrau, and REDLIKH introduced me to him. In our conversation, I told BIRK that I agreed to work at Jumneta, warning him that I was not familiar with that kind of work and had never done anything like it before. BIRK expressed the same opinion as REDLIKH—that I would manage in the job. After that conversation, on 12 February, 1943, I left for Berlin.

QUESTION: What was your position in the Jumneta agency?

ANSWER: In the German propaganda agency Jumneta, I worked as an editor.

QUESTION: What were your duties?

ANSWER: My duties as an editor included: review and editing of various anti-Soviet brochures and leaflets and giving my report on them.

QUESTION: Which anti-Soviet brochures did you personally edit?

ANSWER: During my service in Jumneta, I looked over and edited the following anti-Soviet brochures: "The Assembly Line of the State Political Administration," written by former colonel of the Red Army MALTSEV; "Dostoevsky and the Jews," written by history professor GRISHIN; "The Constitution of the USSR," written by the White émigré VARSHAVSKY; and many other anti-Soviet brochures and leaflets the names and authors of which I cannot remember. In all these brochures, there was slander against the USSR's system of government, the leader of the party, and the Soviet government.

QUESTION: Were the anti-Soviet brochures that you edited ever published?

ANSWER: Yes, with the exception of the brochure "The Constitution of the USSR," all the other anti-Soviet brochures that I edited were published and used by the Germans for propaganda purposes.

QUESTION: You are being presented with an anti-Soviet brochure of MALTSEV published by the Germans called "The Assembly Line of the State Political Administration." Did you edit this brochure?

ANSWER: Yes. In my report on the brochure "The Assembly Line of the State Political Apparatus," I suggested that the Germans make a number of changes in order to make the facts described in it more believable and the brochure itself more comprehensible to the consciousness of the Soviet reader. After my observations, this brochure was published.

Under Jumneta, the Germans organized a commission made up of White émigré doctor KREKSHIN and former general of the Imperial Army DASHKEVICH-GORBATSKY. This commission in which I was also handled the editing and translation of German military regulations into Russian to be spread among the volunteer Russian units serving under the German army and the RLA. I was involved with this work until August 1944, when I

established communication with former commander of the Second Strike Force Army VLASOV A. A.

QUESTION: When did you meet with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I met VLASOV in August 1942, during the period that I was in Ziethenhorst, where he came in a car together with a captain of the German army, STRIKFELD. VLASOV and STRIKFELD arrived in Ziethenhorst, headed to the room of the former commander of one of the armies, Lieutenant General LUKIN, and had a conversation with him. After this conversation, which lasted about an hour, STRIKFELD and VLASOV came out of LUKIN's room into the common room where PROKHOROV and I were, and said hello to us without stating their names. I recognized from photos that had been printed in a newspaper published by the Germans that this was Lieutenant General VLASOV. In the same newspaper where I saw his photo, there was a caption that said that VLASOV, while commanding officer of the Second Strike Force Army, had voluntarily surrendered to the Germans.

QUESTION: Do you know what VLASOV spoke with LUKIN about?

ANSWER: Yes, I do. That same day after VLASOV and the German STRIKFELD left Ziethenhorst, LUKIN told me that VLASOV proposed that he take part in the creation of the Russian Committee and that he also made the same proposal to former General of the Red Army SNEGOV. However, according to what LUKIN told me, he supposedly declined VLASOV's proposal.

QUESTION: What do you know about VLASOV creating the so-called Russian Committee?

ANSWER: In about April 1943, when I was serving in the Eastern Ministry for Propaganda in the organization Jumneta, I read in one of the newspapers published by the Germans that VLASOV and a former executive officer of one of the armies, brigade commander of the Red Army MALYSHKIN Vasily Fyodorovich, had created the Russian Committee in Smolensk, setting as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime in the USSR and the creation of a new government. At the same time as this newspaper, a proclamation was published, signed by VLASOV and MALYSHKIN, to Russian military POWs and Soviet citizens on uniting with the Germans for the fight against Bolshevism. Soon after the creation of the Russian Committee, in May 1943, I had a meeting with VLASOV at the courses for German

propagandists in Dabendorf, where I had come from Berlin to see TRUKHIN and BLAGOVESCHENSKY.

QUESTION: What was the nature of your meeting with VLASOV?

ANSWER: I came to Dabendorf on the invitation of TRUKHIN to participate in a celebration on the occasion of another graduation of propagandists. At this celebration were present, in addition to the graduates and the enrolled students: VLASOV, former member of the Military Council of one of the armies and division level commissar ZHILENKOV, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, ZAITSEV, SHTIFANOV, and MALYSHKIN. That time, TRUKHIN introduced me to VLASOV, ZHILENKOV and MALYSHKIN. All three of them gave anti-Soviet speeches to the graduates at that celebration.

QUESTION: What did VLASOV say in his speech?

ANSWER: In his speech, VLASOV called on the propagandists to spread the word in the camps for POWs about the proclamation of the Russian Committee. Further, VLASOV shared his impressions from his trip to the cities of Pskov and Smolensk, saying that the population of these cities had supposedly received him well, shared his ideas, and according to him, enthusiastically received the address of the Russian Committee. Especially widespread, said VLASOV, was the anti-Soviet work among the intelligentsia of Pskov, where on the initiative of a certain KHORMENKO, an anti-Soviet organization that shared the agenda of the Russian Committee had supposedly been created.

In the closing remarks of his speech, VLASOV stated that the fight he had started against the Soviet regime supposedly had all conditions necessary to meet with success, and he called on all present at the celebration to fight actively against Bolshevism and STALIN personally.

The speeches of TRUKHIN and ZHILENKOV had roughly the same content. After the ceremonial portion of the evening, there was a banquet. At the banquet, first VLASOV, then ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, and the editor of the anti-Soviet newspaper *Volunteer*, whose name I do not remember, gave toasts to the success of the fight against the Soviet regime and friendship with Germany.

QUESTION: When else did you meet with VLASOV?

ANSWER: In the summer of 1943, at the invitation of TRUKHIN, I was at VLASOV's apartment in Dabendorf (a Berlin suburb). At the beginning of the conversation, VLASOV asked about how I was taken prisoner and where I worked. After my answer, VLASOV began to express to TRUKHIN and me his dissatisfaction that the Germans weren't allowing him enough independence in the formation of the "volunteer" army for armed conflict against the USSR. The Germans, said VLASOV, were breaking apart already-formed units of POWs into small sub-units and putting their officers in command.

VLASOV said that if the Germans lacked trust in the Russian units as a result of cases where these units crossed over to the Red Army, they would sooner or later come to understand that this was happening due to his, VLASOV's, lack of necessary influence on the personnel of these units. VLASOV said that the further development of the work of the Russian Committee depended on the Germans, and that for the time being it was being used for propaganda purposes, but the time would come, according to VLASOV, when the Germans would understand him and give him the opportunity to really roll out the anti-Soviet work.

I asked VLASOV whether he knew that Jumneta was putting out a number of anti-Soviet leaflets, posters, etc., in his name. VLASOV answered that he did not know about it, and he asked me to come see him more often and inform him as to what the Germans were doing in his name.

After that, I began to meet with VLASOV regularly, once or twice a month. TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, or ZHILENKOV was usually present at these meetings. Each time I was at VLASOV's place, he always complained to me that the Germans were not allowing him to show what he could do. Nevertheless, VLASOV always expressed confidence at these meetings that the Germans would sooner or later change their policies and allow him to roll out the anti-Soviet activity more broadly. In about May or June 1944, VLASOV left Dabendorf for the *dacha*, and for that reason our meetings temporarily ceased. Later I learned that VLASOV had a meeting with HIMMLER on 19 September 1944.

QUESTION: Were you informed of the nature of the meeting between VLASOV and HIMMLER?

ANSWER: Yes. At the beginning of September 1944, MALYSHKIN called me on the telephone and asked me to come to see him at Dabendorf. When I arrived at Dabendorf, I found out

from MALYSHKIN that VLASOV was in HIMMLER's headquarters talking with him about the creation of a new committee and the formation of the RLA. VLASOV sent MALYSHKIN a letter in which he asked me to take part in the creation of this committee and give him a list of individuals from among the intelligentsia who wanted to take part in anti-Soviet activity with VLASOV. Before carrying out VLASOV's request, I asked MALYSHKIN to tell me what this committee of which VLASOV was discussing the creation with HIMMLER would be exactly. MALYSHKIN told me that according to VLASOV's plan, the committee he created would be called the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and that all the anti-Soviet organizations fighting against the Soviet regime and Bolshevism would be united in this committee.

The Committee, MALYSHKIN informed me, would consist of 45–50 representatives of various strata of the population: the intelligentsia, workers, peasants, and White émigrés. This committee would make use of the situation providing it with the full ability to independently lead the fight against the Bolsheviks and there would be an express arrangement for this with the Germans. Furthermore, MALYSHKIN told me that the Russian Liberation Army would be formed by the committee for the fight against the Red Army, and by arrangement with the Germans, all the military units formed from POWs would flow into it. MALYSHKIN also said that after the creation of the committee, a manifesto would be published in which the agenda of CLPR would be explained and that ZHILENKOV had already been tasked with writing this manifesto. Having told me about this, MALYSHKIN returned to the question touched upon in the beginning of our conversation, and asked me to give him a list of individuals from among the intelligentsia who could take part in the creation of CLPR.

QUESTION: Who did you propose for the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Before recommending anyone for the committee, I wrote VLASOV a letter in which I asked him in his talks with HIMMLER to obtain an agreement from the German government to recognize the committee as the only representative of the interests of Russia, as an allied force, an equal agreeing party, and, in the event that this recognition was offered, to exchange representatives between the two bodies. I also proposed that

Hitler's government allow the formation in the German-occupied Soviet territory and in the territory of Germany itself of an army of not less than one million that would unite all Russian units currently located under the German forces.

In addition to this, I suggested that all Russian military POWs and the civilian population as well that had been taken from Soviet territory by the Germans and kept in camps and made to work in industry and agriculture fall under the control of the committee and have equal status—in terms of rights and daily life concerns—with the foreign workers of governments allied with Germany. The German government should provide the committee with credit and provide with this credit arms, equipment, and provisions for the Russian Liberation Army. I recommended in my letter that VLASOV arrange all of this with the Germans on the basis of contracts and agreements. On 20 September, 1944, after VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER, VLASOV invited me to his apartment, where TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, and ZHILENKOV were already present.

At this meeting, VLASOV first shared his impressions of his meeting with HIMMLER. He said that this meeting was of a friendly and heart-felt nature, and that he and HIMMLER had agreed on the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. Once he had informed us of the talks with HIMMLER, VLASOV turned to a specific explanation of the plan of our work for the near future—the creation of the committee itself, putting together a manifesto that the committee could release, and also arranging the working apparatus of the committee. A few days after this meeting, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, and I set to completing this work.

The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia was formed with a view to including, where possible, representatives of the main ethnicities settled in the USSR and representatives of the military, workers, the intelligentsia, and White émigrés. MALYSHKIN put together a list of members of the committee. TRUKHIN put forward candidates for membership in the committee and I was tasked with providing candidates from among the intelligentsia and the workers, since during my service in the Eastern Ministry I constantly had business with Russians brought to Germany by the Germans, and also with White émigrés.

I presented the following candidates who were included in the list of candidates for membership of the committee after a conversation with VLASOV: Professor STOLMAKOV; White émigré journalist LISOVSKY, who worked in the editorial offices of the anti-Soviet newspaper "New Word" [*Novoe slovo*]; Professor MOSKVITINOV; engineer KUMIN; Professor ANDREEV, who worked as a propagandist in Jumneta; workers PODLAZNIK and GORDIENKO; engineer BROVTSEV; Professor KARPINSKY; worker YANUSHEVSKAYA; and many others whose names I do not remember.

VLASOV and ZHILENKOV put forward a number of candidates from among the White émigrés, specifically: Professor RUDNEV; KAZANTSEV, former Ataman of the Cossack forces, Lieutenant General BALABIN; the leader of the Russian All-Military Union in Yugoslavia, Lieutenant General KREITOR; the leader of the Russian All-Military Union in Bulgaria, General ABRAMOV; SHLIPPE; and many others.

When the candidates put forward for the committee had been discussed by VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and those pulled in for this work, including RUDNEV, BALABIN, and BOGATYRCHUK, the list was sent to HIMMLER for confirmation.

The text of the manifesto was compiled by KOVALCHUK, ZAITSEV, and SHTIFANOV, brought in for the job from the editorial offices of the anti-Soviet newspapers and the Dabendorf courses. ZHILENKOV assumed the leadership role of compiling the manifesto.

QUESTION: You also took part in editing the manifesto. Why are you hiding that?

ANSWER: I must admit that after the draft of the manifesto was put together, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and I worked on the final review and added a number of our own changes to it, after which the manifesto was approved by HIMMLER.

QUESTION: You are being shown the Manifesto of CLPR, published in the anti-Soviet newspaper "Will of the People"[105] on 15 November, 1944. Is this the document you are talking about?

ANSWER: Yes, this is it. After the preliminary work was complete, on 14 November, 1944, in the Prague Palace in the Czech capital of Prague, the first inaugural session of the committee was held, at which, in addition to those in the

committee itself, around 300 people from among the POWs, the White émigrés, and the Germans were present as guests.

The inaugural session was opened by the senior committee member, White émigré Professor Rudnev. After a short introductory speech from RUDNEV, who talked about the "historic" meaning of this session, the leader of the protectorate of Czechia and Moravia FRANK and the secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany LORENS gave congratulatory remarks from the German command. In their speeches, FRANK and LORENS congratulated those present on the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and announced that the committee and its armed forces were the allies of Germany in the fight against a common enemy—the Soviet regime and the Red Army. After the congratulatory speeches from FRANK and LORENS, VLASOV spoke.

QUESTION: What was the nature of VLASOV's speech?

ANSWER: In his speech, VLASOV announced that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia had been created for the fight against the Soviet regime and Bolshevism, he spoke of the goals the committee had set for itself, and then he read the manifesto. After the reading of the manifesto, it was unanimously confirmed and signed by members of the committee. After that, a list of members for the presidium of the committee were confirmed.

QUESTION: Who was in the committee that VLASOV created?

ANSWER: The committee included the following members: myself, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, former Colonel of the Red Army BOYARSKY, White émigré Professor RUDNEV, White émigré journalist LISOVSKY, professor from Leningrad MOSKVITINOV, professor from Moscow ANDREEV, professor from Leningrad KARPINSKY, Professor SMIRNOV, Ukrainians TSIMBAL and GORDIENKO, Belorussian PODLAZNIK, engineer from Leningrad BROVTSINA, former teacher YANUSHEVSKAYA, Professor of Medicine from Kiev BOGATYRCHUK, instructor from Minsk BUDZILOVICH, White émigré and former Lieutenant General of Cossack forces BALABIN, Professor from Nalchik TSAGOL, White émigré LIVITSKY, Professor KUDINOV, former Colonel of the Red Army MIANDROV, former commander of one of the rifle divisions and Colonel of the Red Army BUNYACHENKO, former Lieutenant of

the Red Army DZHALALOV, journalist from Kiev MUZYCHENKO, former Sr. Lieutenant of the Red Army and teaching assistant at the biology institute in Moscow ZAITSEV, former actor of the Arts Theater in Moscow VOLKHOVSKY alias SVERCHKOV, former attorneys from Moscow TENZEROV and PUZANOV, White émigré former Major General of Cossack forces POLOZOV, White émigré former leader of ROVS in Bulgaria ABRAMOV, White émigré SHLIPPE, White émigré journalist KAZANTSEV, FOMENKO from Sevastopol, Professor from Yuzovka (Donbass) IVANOV, Professor TATARINOV, former worker of the Main Administration of the Civilian Air Fleet MALTSEV, student from Kharkov YEGOROV.

As candidates: Professor from Donbass STOLMAKOV, worker RODNY, and engineer from Leningrad KUMIN. I do not remember the names of the rest of the members and candidates of the committee. All of these individuals signed the manifesto of the committee in Prague. Later, others were admitted for membership, including docent from Kiev GRECHKO, MAIKOVSKY, and a number of other individuals.

QUESTION: Who is this MAIKOVSKY?

ANSWER: According to the wife of the former director of the Kiev Opera and Ballet Theater KUPRIN, who was sentenced for anti-Soviet activity and whom I know from our time working together for the Germans in the organization Jumneta, I learned that MAIKOVSKY was by profession an attorney; he lived in Kiev before the war. After the Germans occupied Kiev, MAIKOVSKY, betraying his homeland, went into service for the Germans, first working as an investigator for the German police in Kiev and later for the Gestapo in Berlin.

QUESTION: Materials of the investigation have established that you were an agent of the Gestapo and maintained contact with MAIKOVSKY. Testify about this.

ANSWER: I was not connected to the Gestapo.

QUESTION: We suggest that you familiarize yourself on this account with the testimony of the arrested ANISIN V. A. from 26 November, 1945.

"Of the official workers and agents of the Russian Division of the Gestapo in Berlin, I know: ZAKUTNY, former Major General of the Red Army who surrendered to the Germans in 1941, was one of the organizers of the RLA, held the post of head of the

Civilian Administration in the CLPR, and was in contact with MAIKOVSKY."

Tell us, what assignments did you carry out for the Gestapo?

ANSWER: I was not a Gestapo agent. I committed crimes against the Soviet regime, but I ask that you believe that I had no connection to the Gestapo.

QUESTION: The investigation does not believe you and we will return to this question.

Now tell us, who made up the presidium of the committee?

ANSWER: The following people were elected to the presidium of the committee: VLASOV as the chair of the presidium, myself, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, RUDNEV, BOGATYRCHUK, BUDZILOVICH, BALABIN, TSAGOL, and IVANOV.

On 18 November 1944, on the occasion of the creation of the committee, there was a ceremonial session in Berlin with the whole membership of the committee to which up to 1,000 guests from among Soviet citizens taken by the Germans to Germany and POWs were invited.

QUESTION: What questions were discussed at this session of the committee?

ANSWER: At this session of the committee, VLASOV gave a report on the work completed by CLPR. In his report, VLASOV indicated that the committee had been created in order to unite all Russian people and lead the fight in an alliance with the Germans against the Soviet regime and Bolshevism. In this speech, VLASOV also said that the manifesto put out by the committee supposedly had broad support among the societies of western European countries and met with sympathy from the population of the Soviet Union. At the end of his speech, VLASOV called on all those present at the ceremonial session to unite around the committee to further fight against the Soviet regime and the Bolsheviks.

After VLASOV's report, there followed speeches from several representatives of the RLA, the priest KISELEV[106] and some other individuals whose names I do not remember. In their speeches, KISELEV and the other orators welcomed the creation of the committee and called upon the peoples of Russia to unite in the fight against communism. After the creation of the committee and the issuing of the manifesto, a number of institutions were created to lead the anti-Soviet activity of CLPR.

QUESTION: What specific institutions were created?

ANSWER: Within the committee, the following institutions were organized:

Headquarters for the Armed Forces of CLPR—the executive officer was TRUKHIN, who was simultaneously VLASOV's deputy in the leadership of the Armed Forces of CLPR.

Organizational Administration, which was headed by MALYSHKIN, in charge of bringing to life the decisions made by the committee and the organization of various administrations within the committee, the administrative and facilities services for members of the committee, and also the issues of intelligence and counterintelligence, and in addition providing security for all members of the committee.

In order to achieve these goals, the Organizational Administration included: a front office, an academic council, a security department, a legal department, a department of guards, a financial department, and an administrative-maintenance department.

Propaganda Administration led by ZHILENKOV. The mission of the administration led by ZHILENKOV included the organization of all kinds of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda in the RLA units, in POW camps, and also in camps for "Eastern workers." For this purpose, CHILENKOV had at his disposal print, film, and radio provided by the Germans.

Civil Affairs Administration—I headed this administration. The Civil Affairs administration was responsible for conducting anti-Soviet work among Russian workers, and also with the development of all issues connected with civilian administrations on the territory of the USSR in the event of a German victory. I was primarily occupied with laying the groundwork for the organization of civilian administration bodies in places CLPR hoped would be occupied by the Germans, and I selected staff for these administrations.

QUESTION: What was the structure of the Civil Affairs Administration that you created?

ANSWER: The Civil Affairs Administration consisted of three departments:

General Department: The head of this department was the White émigré German MYER; his deputy was White émigré attorney MALISHKEVICH. The duties of the department included: legal aid for Russian workers brought to Germany and

also administrative and maintenance services for the workers of the Civil Affairs Administration.

Workers' Department: This department was headed by Professor ANDREEV and engineer KUMIN, the head and deputy, respectively. The Workers' Department was supposed to see to the betterment of material and living conditions for Russian workers within German industry, transportation, and agriculture. To this end, the Workers Department had authorized personnel placed in factories, plants, and other establishments.

School Department, which was led by an instructor of the Mariupol high school, CHURILOV. The department headed by CHURILOV was supposed to organize the instruction of children held with their parents in civilian camps.

Medical Department. This department was headed first by Professor of Medicine BOGATYRCHUK, and later by Doctor MARKIN. The task of this department was to organize medical help for Russian workers held in civilian camps.

Personnel Department—led by engineer POPOV. This department kept track of anti-Soviet cadres, their assignments to leadership positions in the administrations within the committee, and also the planning and organization of civilian administrations on the territory of the USSR in the event of a German victory.

QUESTION: What sort of anti-Soviet work was conducted by the Civil Affairs Administration of CLPR?

ANSWER: Primarily, the issue of the future governmental structure of Russia was being prepared. Planning for this process was conducted by the academic council of the Organizational Administration of the committee, led by Professor MOSKVITINOV. Since the academic council had not worked out a solution to this question and it was still unclear what kind of organizational structure would be built to administer the future Russia, the Civil Affairs Administration had practically nothing to do regarding this issue.

QUESTION: Earlier, you testified that the committee was conducting intelligence and counterintelligence activity. How was this work organized?

ANSWER: There was a security department within the committee whose function it was to conduct intelligence and counterintelligence activity. At first this department was led by former Major of the Red Army KALUGIN, and from December 1944, committee member and attorney TENZEROV alias

PUZANOV was appointed to this position and KALUGIN was appointed as his deputy. The security department was under the Organizational Administration led by MALYSHKIN.

From the words of VLASOV, TRUKHIN, and MALYSHKIN, I learned that the security department led counterintelligence work through a network of secret agents that had as its goal the revealing of Soviet supporters and other types of enemy groups within RLA units.

As far as I know, the security department also conducted intelligence activity against the Soviet Union, but I do not know how that work was accomplished in practice.

In December 1944, I was the witness of a conversation in which VLASOV asked TRUKHIN to send him for personal instructions two RLA officers—he did not name them—who were intended to be inserted into the Soviet Union. I am not aware of what these agents' assignment was once in the USSR, since I went in to see VLASOV at the end of his conversation with TRUKHIN.

QUESTION: What military units were formed by the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia for the fight against the Red Army?

ANSWER: After the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the German government was looking for a way out of the difficult situation that had been created on the Eastern Front and began to insistently demand that VLASOV speed up the formation of the Russian Liberation Army. VLASOV and TRUKHIN, who were working with the armed forces of CLPR directly, managed to form two divisions. In Münsingen, the first division was formed, numbering up to 20 thousand people, fully equipped. This division was made up mainly of the reformulated German punitive brigades of one KAMINSKY, who had taken part in putting down the Warsaw uprising. The commander of the first division was former Colonel of the Red Army BUNYACHENKO, who was later given the rank of Major General by the Germans. Up until then, BUNYACHENKO had commanded the Russian Volunteer Regiment that participated in battles against the enemies on the coast of France, for which the Germans presented him with the Iron Cross.

In this same camp, an officers' school for the RLA was organized, the head of which was committee member and former

Colonel of the Red Army MIANDROV. I do not know exactly what this school was.

In Heuberg, the second division was formed and was completely assembled from the point of view of personnel, numbering up to 20 thousand. The commander of this division was former Colonel of the Red Army ZVEREV, whom the Germans also promoted to Major General.

There was also talk of the formation of a third division, which was to be commanded by former Major General of the Red Army SHAPOVALOV. From the words of BLAGOVESCHENSKY, I know that the Germans had previously intended to use SHAPOVALOV in the role played by VLASOV, but when the latter appeared, they changed their plans.

In the region of Marienbad in the Czech Sudeten, an aviation unit of the RLA was formed, the size of which I do not know. The commander of aviation was committee member and former worker of the Main Administration for the Civil Air Fleet[107] Colonel of the Red Army MALTSEV.

In addition to these units, in February 1945, a unit numbering up to 300 people was formed in Berlin from the soldiers of VLASOV's personal guard, under the command of White émigré Colonel SAKHAROV. This unit was intended to fight against Soviet tanks and was armed with Panzerfausts and automatic rifles.

That same month, the SAKHAROV unit was redeployed to a region to the east of Berlin for participation in battles against the Red Army. For their participation in battle operations against the Red Army, SAKHAROV and all his staff were awarded the Iron Cross by the Germans.

Later, VLASOV told me that the SAKHAROV unit would be made into a regiment and then, on the basis of that, expanded into an independent brigade.

QUESTION: Which units of the RLA, besides that of SAKHAROV, participated in military action against the Red Army?

ANSWER: In February 1945, the first division—under the command of BUNYACHENKO—was redeployed to the region southeast of Berlin, where they took up defensive positions on the Oder River and conducted armed actions against the Red Army. At the end of February 1945, in connection with the Allies' intensified bombing of Berlin and the expectation of the advance of the Red Army, the situation in the city became so tense that

several leaders of German government bodies began to run from Berlin. Our committee also left for Karlsbad.

During the time the committee was in Karlsbad, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, and I had more than one conversation about the fact that if Red Army units were to take us, we would all be punished for our crimes against the Soviet regime, and we therefore decided that the only way out of the situation would be to cross over to the Americans or English. On this VLASOV said that after crossing over to the Americans or the English, the committee should continue its work against the Soviet regime. It was then, in one conversation, that VLASOV told me that he intended to send me to the Swiss border, where I was supposed to establish contact with the Americans or the English through the Red Cross with the help of some former diplomat from one of the Baltic republics (he did not give his name) and come to an agreement with them about terms for the RLA and committee to cross over to their side.

In April 1945, when units of the Red Army began to advance on Berlin and the situation became catastrophic, we—members of the committee—began to look for a way out of the situation that had been created. It was decided that I, along with a group of committee members, would remain behind in Füssen in order to establish contact with the Americans and, in the name of the committee, conduct negotiations with them on providing asylum for the RLA and leadership of the committee. With this goal, MALYSHKIN was also sent to the Americans.

On 26 April, 1945, VLASOV gave me a signed document in English and French authorizing me to negotiate with the Americans, and I remained in Füssen. On 1 May, 1945, Füssen was occupied by the American forces, and I was arrested by the American police and taken to the headquarters of one of the American divisions. In the headquarters, I presented the signed document that VLASOV had given me and stated that I was a member of CLPR and authorized in its name to conduct negotiations with the Americans regarding conditions for the surrender of RLA units. The American speaking with me informed me that an agreement had already been reached with MALYSHKIN. Remaining in Füssen, on 20 May, 1945, I was again arrested—by the German police serving in the American Military-Civilian Administration[108]—and put in prison. On 13 June, 1945, I was handed over to the Soviet command by the Americans.

The transcript of the interrogation has been accurately recorded from my words and read by me.

ZAKUTNY

Interrogated by: Deputy Section Head of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate of Counterintelligence "SMERSH"

Major SEDOV

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 2. L. 204–236. Original.

N° 6.2. Transcript of the interrogation of D. Ye. Zakutny.

8 March, 1946

INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested ZAKUTNY Dmitri Yefimovich

QUESTION: In previous interrogations, you did not fully tell us about your enemy activity as a member of the presidium of CLPR. Talk about this.

ANSWER: As a member of the presidium of CLPR, I participated, together with VLASOV, in a number of negotiations with the Germans.

QUESTION: In which negotiations with the Germans did you participate?

ANSWER: In the beginning of December 1944, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, and I were at a reception at the head of one of the administrations, led by Ley of the "German Labor Front (DAF)."[109] I do not remember the last name of this official. At the reception, in addition to us, there were several officials present from this agency whose names I do not know, and also representatives of the SS, Colonel KRÜGER and Major ZIVERS. This meeting was held in order to establish communications between the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and the Ley agency, and to exchange opinions regarding the conditions of the Russian workers in Germany who had been driven out of occupied Soviet territory by the Germans. At the reception, VLASOV spoke first, and in his introduction stated that

"now, when CLPR had been created and the formation of the RLA was under way, it was necessary to explain to the Russian workers placed in German industry that they were working for themselves, since the products of their labor were going toward equipping not only the German army, but the RLA as well.["]

VLASOV further recommended that the Germans introduce a system of requirements for German companies in order to increase productivity: whoever did not meet the production norm would receive a smaller ration or would be placed in poorer living conditions. VLASOV finished his speech by proposing that everyone present raise a toast to HITLER.

Speaking after VLASOV, I recommended that the Germans make Russian workers equal to other foreign workers in Germany in terms of daily life and legal rights in order to give authority to CLPR in the eyes of the Russian workers, so that it did not seem to them to be all a German propaganda trick.

QUESTION: Which negotiations with the Germans did you take part in?

ANSWER: Also in December 1944, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and I were at a reception with the commanding officer of the volunteer formations, General KÖSTRING, where, in addition to him, from the German side were present: Colonel of the SS KRÜGER; Lt. Colonel of the SS BARHART; a representative of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the former adviser of the German embassy in Moscow HILGER; the executive officer of volunteer forces, Lieutenant General ASCHENBRENNER; and two officers from the headquarters of General KÖSTRING whose names I do not know. The goal of this meeting was to come to an agreement with KÖSTRING on the transfer of all the volunteer formations to the command of VLASOV.

During the negotiations, VLASOV was trying to prove the necessity of transferring the volunteer formations to his command and said that after the creation of CLPR and the beginning of the formation of the armed forces, it made sense to transfer the Russian, Ukrainian, Belorussian, and other ethnic units currently serving within the German armed forces to his command, since they would fight better against the Soviet Union under him.

As confirmation of what VLASOV said, in his introductory remarks TRUKHIN said that he had traveled out to the volunteer units in Italy and had observed the unhealthy relationship

between the soldiers in these units and the German officers, and that taking command positions away from Russian officers had negatively affected the mood of the soldiers, who were all, according to him, chomping at the bit to be under VLASOV's command. As a result of these negotiations—which, it should be said, were conducted in a friendly way, accompanied by toasts to friendship and the joint fight of the RLA and the Germans against the Bolsheviks—KÖSTRING stated that he did not object to the transfer of volunteer units to VLASOV's command if he got instruction on it from the head of the German General Headquarters, GUDERIAN.[110]

QUESTION: Which volunteer units did the Germans transfer to VLASOV?

ANSWER: As far as I know, after these negotiations the Germans transferred to VLASOV the punitive brigade of KAMINSKY, which formed most of the first division of the RLA. On 18 January, 1945, I attended a banquet that was given by the Germans on the occasion of the signing of the financing of CLPR, signed by VLASOV and the Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany, Baron von STEENGRACHT.

QUESTION: Who was at this banquet?

ANSWER: At the banquet were: Baron von STEENGRACHT, HILGER, Colonel of the SS KRÜGER, General ASCHENBRENNER, and other officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany. From the committee were present: myself, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, head of the financial department Professor Andreev, head of the department of military relations for CLPR ZHEREBKOV, BOGATYRCHUK, SHLIPPE, and other members of the committee. At the banquet, fist STEENGRACHT and then VLASOV gave speeches.

QUESTION: What did VLASOV say in his speech?

ANSWER: In his speech, VLASOV said that the financial agreement between the German government and CLPR was new proof of the trust the Germans had in CLPR. He also stated that the agreement opened great possibilities for ramping up the fight against Bolshevism and further prospects for economic and political cooperation. At the end of his speech, VLASOV thanked the German government, as represented by Baron von STEENGRACHT, for the monetary support provided to CLPR.

On 20 January, 1945, VLASOV called a meeting of the committee at which the financial agreement was read.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a document titled "Agreement between the Chair of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and the Government of Great Germany," signed 18 January, 1945 by VLASOV and STEENGRACHT.

Is this the agreement you are talking about?

ANSWER: Yes, it is. After reading this agreement at the session of the committee, Vlasov said that the financial agreement was a great diplomatic victory for him and that it strengthened the friendship between CLPR and the Germans.

The transcript of the interrogation has been accurately recorded from my words and read by me.

ZAKUTNY.

INTERRGATED BY: DEPUTY SECTION HEAD OF THE INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"

Major SEDOV

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 2. L. 237–240. Original.

7. Transcripts of the interrogations of V. I. Maltsev and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 7.1. Transcript of the interrogation of V. I. Maltsev.

1 February, 1946

INTERRGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested MALTSEV Viktor Ivanovich from February 1946

MALTSEV V. I., born 1895 in Gus'-Khrustal'ny in Ivanovo District, Russian, citizen of the USSR, from a peasant family, high school education, former head of the Aeroflot sanatorium in Yalta.

QUESTION: You were arrested for enemy activity against the Soviet people. When did you embark on the path to anti-Soviet activity?

ANSWER: My anti-Soviet activity began in 1941, when as a result of my anti-Soviet convictions I crossed over to the Germans in order to fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances did you cross over to the enemy?

ANSWER: On the eve of the war of Germany against the USSR, I was serving in Yalta as the head of the Aeroflot sanatorium. When the Red Army left Yalta, I decided to wait in the city for the Germans, and on 8 November, 1941, with the advance on Yalta of the first German units, the German headquarters entered. In conversation with a German officer, I stated that I had remained in the city with the intention of crossing over into their service. After that, I was placed for several days in a POW camp, where I fell ill. When I had recovered, it was proposed that I appear before the head of the SS in the city of Yalta, Captain HEINZ, with whom I had a lengthy discussion.

QUESTION: What did you talk about with Captain HEINZ?

ANSWER: I told HEINZ that I hated the Soviet regime for my arrest in 1938 and for the fact that after being released I was appointed head of a sanatorium, when I had the rank of colonel and had previously held distinguished command assignments in the Red Army, specifically as the commanding officer of the Air Force in the Siberian Military District.

HEINZ expressed his sympathy to me and said that now I had the opportunity to get my revenge on the Soviet regime for the wrongs done to me. He gave me a first assignment to expose communists and active Soviet supporters in Yalta. I assured the officer that I was prepared to serve the Germans, but said that I could not complete this assignment because I did not know the civilian population in the city very well. HEINZ did not insist and proposed that for the time being I occupy myself with writing a description of my time held by the NKVD in 1938–39, to which I willingly agreed. The proposal was made to me because, having told HEINZ about my time in Soviet prison, I slandered the NKVD and the Soviet government. At the end of our conversation, HEINZ ordered the city's commandant to issue me a passport for residence, and I returned home and began writing slanderous anti-Soviet brochures which I called "The Assembly Line of the GPU" [State Political Directorate].

QUESTION: You are being presented with an anti-Soviet brochure "The Assembly Line of the GPU." Are you its author?

ANSWER: Yes, I am the author of the brochure "The Assembly Line of the GPU" presented to me here. I wrote it in the period from December 1941 through June 1942 in Yalta. When I finished writing the brochure "The Assembly Line of the GPU," HEINZ was no longer in Yalta, and therefore on the advice of the German commandant of the city, I took it to Simferopol and gave it to the head of the Propaganda Division of the army headquarters of Field Marshal MANSTEIN,[111] Doctor MAURACH. He read the brochure and said that he would send it to the German Ministry of Propaganda for printing. After about a year, in the summer of 1943, I met with a German named BAUMAN who had been appointed officer for special operations in propaganda for Yalta, who informed me that my brochure had been printed.

QUESTION: By whom was your brochure printed?

ANSWER: The brochure I wrote was published by the German Ministry of Propaganda in a run of 50 thousand copies and sent throughout the German-occupied Soviet regions.

QUESTION: It follows that your anti-Soviet brochure was used by the Germans for fascist propaganda among the Soviet citizenry of occupied territories?

ANSWER: Yes, that is so.

QUESTION: What compensation did you receive from the Germans for writing this libel?

ANSWER: The German Ministry of Propaganda paid me 500 marks for writing the brochure "The Assembly Line of the GPU."

QUESTION: While living in Yalta, you did not occupy yourself only with the writing of the brochure. Tell us about your other traitorous activities during this period.

ANSWER: In March 1942, I was appointed by the Germans to the post of Burgomaster of the City of Yalta, and later, in September 1942, as a magistrate.

QUESTION: Why did the Germans appoint you as Burgomaster of Yalta?

ANSWER: When I agreed with SS boss HEINZ to write the anti-Soviet brochure, I would often stop in to see him and show him what I had already written. During one such visit, I met the German Captain HARE in HEINZ's office—who, as I was later to learn, was one of the assistants of Lt. Colonel SCHRADER, leader of the German commandant's headquarters for the cities and villages on the southern coast of Crimea. On meeting with me, HARE consulted with HEINZ about something and then offered that I could take on oversight of the work of the city council. I was not opposed to this.

After about 2 months, I was called in to see SCHRADER, who announced in the presence of the former Burgomaster of Yalta, ANISCHENKOV, and the German commandant of the city, BERENS, that he was assigning me to conduct a review of the work of the city council and present a report on my findings to him in two weeks. SCHRADER obliged the city commandant BERENS to offer me complete cooperation in this task. Having received the assignment, I fairly scrupulously reviewed the work of the main departments of the city administration and in the report that I presented to SCHRADER, I indicated a number of inadequacies that I found. SCHRADER, after reading through my report and listening to my oral summary, offered me the position of burgomaster, to which I agreed. On 9 March, 1942, I entered office in the city administration.

QUESTION: How long were you the Burgomaster of Yalta?

ANSWER: I was Burgomaster of Yalta for two months, from 9 March until 7 May of 1942. My work boiled down to the organization of the administration of the city and control over the distribution of available products among the population.

QUESTION: Why are you not talking about your participation in the atrocities committed by the Germans against the population of Yalta?

ANSWER: The repressions against the population of Yalta were carried out by the Germans without my participation. Nor could they press me into service exposing party members and active Soviet supporters.

At the beginning of May 1942, I was relieved of the position of burgomaster of the city due to the fact that, as I was told by the city commandant KUMP, an order came down from high-placed Germans to restrict the appointment of individuals who had previously been members of the Communist Party to such posts.

QUESTION: How did the Germans make use of you after you were relieved of the post of burgomaster?

ANSWER: After transferring responsibilities of city administration to a colleague that I recommended, KOZLOVSKY, I appeared before HEINZ, who advised me to continue to work on putting together the anti-Soviet brochure. When I completed this work, in roughly June 1942, I wrote a statement to Lt. Colonel SCHRADER in which I asked him to offer me some kind of position. SCHRADER answered that he would do so at the first opportunity.

In September of that year, city commandant KUMP called me in and offered me the post of head of control of the institutions of the city administration. I willingly accepted.

Somewhat later, in October or November 1942, KUMP called me in again and announced that I was being appointed city magistrate and would relinquish my function of control over the city administration. I remained city magistrate until June 1943, after which, as a result of the request I submitted to serve under General VLASOV, I was relieved of this post.

QUESTION: When did you submit your request to serve under VLASOV?

ANSWER: I did so immediately after I read VLASOV's proclamation printed in a newspaper published by the Germans in Simferopol called *Voice of Crimea*.[112] In this proclamation, or "open letter," VLASOV called for a fight against the Soviet regime. When I read this proclamation, I wrote a long article entitled "Response to the Open Letter of General VLASOV" to the *Voice of Crimea* newspaper. In this article, I recounted my anti-Soviet views and stated that I was prepared to support VLASOV in his fight

against the Soviet regime. I also wrote that I had already submitted a request to the German commandant to be transferred to VLASOV's chain of command.

QUESTION TO VLASOV: And were you transferred to VLASOV as a result of this request?

ANSWER: There was a delay in my transfer to VLASOV's command due to the fact that none of the Germans in Crimea knew where VLASOV was at the time. Because I did not know the reason for the delay [in answering] my request at first, I decided to go to propaganda officer BAUMAN, who had just arrived in Yalta, for clarification, and a few days later he informed me that I should go to Simferopol to the head of the Propaganda Division of the MANSTEIN Army, Doctor MAURACH. In June 1943, I headed for Simferopol.

Maurach, when he heard my request, sent me to talk to one KURT, who was the officer of the Ostengruppen in charge of the formation of anti-Soviet national units in the German-occupied Soviet territories. In the Ostengruppen, it was recommended that I return to Yalta and await a summons.

In about 10 days, the commandant of Yalta, KUMP, conveyed to me that according to an order he had received, I was to appear in the Ostengruppen in Simferopol. When I arrived in Simferopol, I was presented to the head of the Ostengruppen, General FREITAG, who suggested that I temporarily occupy myself with the formation of the so-called volunteer eastern battalion "HIWI" in the city of Yevpatoria. I accepted this proposal and at the end of June 1943, I left for Yevpatoria.

QUESTION: Was the HIWI Battalion intended to fight against the Red Army?

ANSWER: Yes, the HIWI Battalion was formed for that purpose. As soon as I arrived in Yevpatoria, people from Azerbaijan, Karachai and other places in the Caucasus began to arrive for the formation of the battalion, and in this way, the battalion numbered around 500 people by August. The battalion commander was a German, Captain WOLNI.

QUESTION: And who were you in this battalion?

ANSWER: I functioned as political leader of the battalion. Every morning, I conducted anti-Soviet conversations in the battalion, calling on the soldiers to fight against the Soviet regime. In addition, I saw that order was kept in the battalion and fought against unauthorized absence and other disciplinary violations.

During that period, I twice placed anti-Soviet articles in the newspaper *Yevpatoria News*,[113] in which I spread propaganda promoting the activity of VLASOV. Individual chapters of my anti-Soviet brochure, "The Assembly Line of the GPU," appeared in print in the *Yevpatoria News*.

I remained in Yevpatoria until the beginning of August 1943—that is, until I was called to Simferopol, where the headquarters of the Ostengruppe gave me an appointment in Lötzen under the command of VLASOV. After stopping in Yalta for several days to see my wife, I left for Lötzen, where I arrived on 20 August, 1943. On the eve of my departure for Lötzen, I gave an anti-Soviet speech to the population of Yalta at the city meeting, in which I called for people to rally around VLASOV.

QUESTION: Why were you sent to Lötzen specifically? Was VLASOV really there at that time?

ANSWER: No, in Lötzen at that time there was a concentration of the so-called volunteers of the Russian Liberation Army (RLA)—that is, former Soviet POWs from among the officers who had been recruited into the service of VLASOV's army. The head of this officers' camp was Lt. Col. TARASOV, and I presented myself to him. To my question of how I might see VLASOV, TARASOV replied that it would be difficult to do, since VLASOV was located in Berlin. TARASOV advised me to remain in the camp and await an assignment.

In mid-September 1943, the head of a neighboring camp, one Lt. Col. HOLTERS, came to Lötzen with his assistant, Lieutenant IDOL. They came to the Lötzen camp in order to see whether or not there were any flight staff held there. They were told about me, after which I was called in to the camp office and, in conversation with IDOL, told him in detail about myself and then asked about my prospects. IDOL informed me that it was possible that in the near future the German General Headquarters would decide to form an aviation unit and that then I would receive an appointment. Until that time, he advised me to remain in camp.

At the end of September 1943, HOLTERS and IDOL came again to Lötzen, and when they were leaving, they invited me to go with them to Moritzfeld, where there was a camp for aviators who had been recruited into service by VLASOV.

QUESTION: What kind of work were you invited to do in Moritzfeld?

ANSWER: The decision still had not been made to form an aviation unit for the RLA, so in effect I did not do anything in Moritzfeld. In the camp at that time there were about 15 pilots who had enrolled into service in the RLA.

In the beginning of December 1943, the German General Headquarters of the Air Force at last decided to form from Russian pilots what they called the "Eastern Squadron" of the RLA. The commander of this squadron was the White émigré TARNOVSKY. HOLTERS and IDOL gave me the responsibility of forming and selecting flight crew for the squadron. The squadron was formed from 10 people, and in the first half of January 1944, I accompanied them to the city of Dvinsk, where they joined the command of the commanding officer of one of the German air fleets, and I am aware that they took part in operations against the Polish partisans.

Upon my return from Dvinsk, I set to the formation of ferrying groups consisting of imprisoned pilots serving in the RLA. These groups were meant to move planes from German aviation factories to active units of the German Army. I formed three such groups. Two of them numbered 10 persons each, and the other eight persons. Each group was sent for flight training on Messerschmidt airplanes in a place near Berlin where there was a training center for pilots of non-German nationality. They trained there for approximately one month. The first group left the training center in February 1944, the second at the end of March, and the third in May.

QUESTION: While you were forming these groups to move the German planes, you recruited Soviet pilots who were POWs. Why are you hiding this?

ANSWER: I admit to the recruitment of pilots in both the aviation units of the RLA and the ferrying groups that I formed. In January 1944, I left for Zydowo (Poland), where they held former Soviet pilots who had crossed over into the service of the Germans. Of them, I recruited 10 men for the RLA and enlisted them all into the transfer of planes. I also recruited pilots in the POW camp in Moritzfeld. In March 1944, I recruited the hero of the Soviet Union, Captain BYCHKOV,[114] into the RLA there, and I worked for a long time to turn him to anti-Soviet thinking. BYCHKOV was also appointed to a group ferrying German planes. Later, I traveled out to Dabendorf and to the camp for flight crew in Gross-Morienhof

(near Marienbad), where all together I recruited another 23 pilots into the RLA.

QUESTION: What kind of aviation units of the RLA did you form?

ANSWER: After the formation of groups for ferrying planes, HOLTERS and IDOL proposed that I wait until a decision had been made about the aviation of the RLA, which according to them I was to command. While awaiting that decision, I formed no new units of the RLA until June 1944.

QUESTION: But during that time you were involved in other anti-Soviet work, were you not?

ANSWER: I do not deny that during the time I was at Moritzfeld, I was also involved in anti-Soviet propaganda activity. Around December 1943, I met through IDOL a White émigré named ALBOV Aleksandr Pavlovich, [115] who had arrived in Moritzfeld and who was the head of the Russian section of the Koningsberg radio communications center. Soon after his departure, Lt. Col. HOLTERS called me into his office and announced that I was to travel to Koningsberg, to ALBOV, to make arrangements with him to give a speech over the radio. I agreed, and a few days later I arrived at ALBOV's. He proposed that I make a speech over the radio addressing the pilots of the Red Army, calling them to fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a recording of "Address to Pilots of the Red Army" that you gave over the radio. Do you confirm the authenticity of this document?

ANSWER: Yes, I was presented with the very same "address," which I gave over the radio on 13 January 1944. In this address, I stated that I was an enemy of the Soviet system and spread gross slander against Soviet reality and the leader of the Soviet people.

QUESTION: You spoke on the radio more than once to slander the Soviet Union. Tell about the other radio performances of this type that you gave.

ANSWER: I spoke over the radio for the second time in Koningsberg on 23 February, 1944, in connection with the anniversary of the Red Army. In that speech, I slandered the Soviet order and the Red Army as well, and called for an overthrow of the Soviet regime.

The third time I participated in an anti-Soviet radio program was in April 1944. On the eve of my trip to Koningsberg, IDOL warned me that this time I was to speak in front of Soviet workers

who had been taken to Germany. In reality, this performance was completely staged. In Koningsberg, ALBOV gave me a prepared speech in which it was even indicated where there would be applause and cries of approval. When I appeared to give the speech, I saw that in the hall, instead of Russian workers, there were gathered staff from the communications center who had been told beforehand when they should applaud. That speech of mine was directed mostly against the English and Americans in connection with the expectation that a second front would be opened.

In that speech, I slanderously claimed that the Bolsheviks, along with the English and the Americans, were the enemies of the Russian people. After me, an announcer from the communications center who was pretending to be a Russian worker came to the microphone. After him spoke the wife of the actor BLUMENTHAL-TAMARIN, who pretended to be a Russian peasant woman. At the end, BLUMENTHAL-TAMARIN himself spoke, claiming that he had supposedly just been passing through Koningsberg and had stumbled upon this "workers' protest."

After the radio show, all the participants were invited to a small banquet.

In July 1944, I, together with 25 other participants of the RLA from Moritzfeld, were transferred to the command of the German Major SCHMIDT, leader of propaganda among the Soviet pilots. SCHMIDT, in turn, was under the command of the head of communications for the German Air Force, General ASCHENBRENNER, who simultaneously functioned as the representative of the German command under VLASOV.

QUESTION: Why were you transferred to the command of Major SCHMIDT?

ANSWER: I cannot answer that question exactly. It seems to me that the reason for my transfer to SCHMIDT's command was the lack of any suitable work for me in Moritzfeld.

QUESTION: And what work were you used for under SCHMIDT?

ANSWER: The first three weeks, the group that I was enrolled in did almost nothing besides renovating the house in which we lived (on a farm near Moritzfeld). That whole time, I was asking SCHMIDT to find me something to do. At the end of July 1944, SCHMIDT proposed that I go to Nörn (Czechoslovakia), where there was a company of propagandists under his command

made up of Soviet POWs recruited into the propaganda courses of the RLA. German Captain von MANTOFEL and Sergeant Major FINTEIZEN went with me to Nörn. Our duties included selecting from among the people in the company students for courses in fascist propaganda in Dabendorf (in the suburbs of Berlin). The head of these courses was General TRUKHIN.

Acting as a commission for the selection of propagandists, every week we called in individuals from the company and conducted something of an exam with them, revealing their political face and level of general education. All of those called in were asked why they had expressed a desire to be a propagandist and how they felt about the Soviet regime. We sent to Dabendorf those who in our view sincerely wanted to fight against the Soviet regime and were sufficiently prepared in a general educational sense.

We sent approximately 60 people in all to TRUKHIN's courses throughout August 1944. The same number were culled by us. In addition to selecting propagandists for the Dabendorf courses, the committee that I was a member of also conducted tests of the quality of training the propagandists had received upon completion of the courses. There was a system in place for all individuals sent to us at Dabendorf for training to return, upon completion of the courses, to the training company and from there receive their assignments. Our responsibilities regarding these propagandists can be summarized by saying that we tested how well they had internalized the material covered in the courses and then determined which of them could be appointed senior propagandist, just propagandist, or even assistant to a propagandist. We presented our findings on this matter to Major SCHMIDT. We tested the knowledge of the propagandists by listening to oral reports that they gave on various anti-Soviet topics. Propagandists were, as a rule, appointed to commands of former Soviet POWs from the flight crew personnel created by the Germans to serve the German army immediately adjacent to the front lines.

The main mission of the propagandists was to conduct agitation among the POWs to join the RLA. After a certain time period had elapsed, the propagandists were called back to Nörn for a review. In these cases, I and other members of the commission added our notes to the reports and then SCHMIDT, on our recommendation, gave appropriate instructions. We

simultaneously gave necessary instructions intended to broaden the scope of their work to the propagandists themselves. I performed the same functions in the city of Karlsbad, where I went with Major SCHMIDT.

QUESTION: When did you move to Karlsbad?

ANSWER: We arrived in Karlsbad from Nörn at the end of September 1944, and we lived there in the building of a former vacation retreat. All other colleagues of the propaganda division headed by SCHMIDT also moved there. The move was probably motivated by the idea that Karlsbad had better living conditions available. In the first days after our arrival in Karlsbad, I continued to be involved in work with the propagandists and specifically kept records for all the companies of POWs where our propagandists were working. At the same time, I wrote a letter to the representative of the German command under VLASOV, General ASCHENBRENNER, in which I indicated the insufficiencies in how propaganda was being implemented among the Russians and made a detailed proposal, including methods to improve propaganda.

QUESTION: I am presenting a letter written by you to ASCHENBRENNER, dated November 1944. Is this the letter you mean?

ANSWER: Yes, this is the very letter that I gave to ASCHENBRENNER.

QUESTION: When did you give it to him?

ANSWER: I gave ASCHENBRENNER the letter presented to me here by the investigation in November 1944, soon after his arrival in Karlsbad. At the time he arrived, ASCHENBRENNER informed me that VLASOV had come to an agreement with HIMMLER regarding the creation of the Russian Committee and its armed forces. Along with this, ASCHENBRENNER informed me of the upcoming creation of an air force for the RLA, in connection with which he offered me, without awaiting the official order, the opportunity to begin the formation of a headquarters for the air force.

QUESTION: Why were you specifically tasked with the formation of the headquarters for the RLA air force?

ANSWER: I already testified that the Germans had previously appointed me as commanding officer of the RLA air force. In light of this, ASCHENBRENNER tasked the formation of the headquarters of the air force to me specifically. At the same

time, he gave orders that the Eastern Squadron that I had formed in January 1944 be redeployed to Karlsbad and answer to me. ASCHENBRENNER proposed that I travel to Berlin to see VLASOV regarding detailed instructions on the creation of the RLA air force, which I then did. I met with VLASOV in Berlin in the second half of October 1944.

QUESTION: Had you met with VLASOV before this?

ANSWER: I first met VLASOV in January 1944, when he came to Mortizfeld. where I was forming the Eastern Squadron. VLASOV was accompanied on that occasion by the German Captain STRIK-STRIKFELD, who was the commandant of the Dabendorf courses for propagandists. They explained their visit by saying that they had nowhere to stay, seeing as VLASOV's *dacha* in Berlin had been destroyed by bombing raids.

VLASOV spent about two weeks in Moritzfeld, and in conversation with me he expounded on his anti-Soviet views, stating that as soon as he could create an army, he would be able to pull Red Army units over to his side and force a government coup in the Soviet Union. During this conversation, he spoke of the Soviet regime exclusively with great enmity.

I met with VLASOV for the second time in Berlin in October 1944.

QUESTION: What did you talk about with VLASOV at this meeting?

ANSWER: The business meeting with VLASOV took place in the evening of the day I arrived in Berlin. Present for this conversation were: General ASCHENBRENNER, his adjutant BUSHMAN, and VLASOV's assistants: former Major General MALYSHKIN, former Lieutenant General ZHILENKOV, and former Major General TRUKHIN.

First off, VLASOV informed us that he had come to an agreement with HIMMLER on the creation of a Russian committee and armed forces under it, including aviation. Here he indicated that HIMMLER had given material consent to form 10 RLA divisions. At first, said VLASOV, he would set to the formation of three divisions. Further, he related in detail the circumstances of his meeting with HIMMLER. This meeting, in the words of VLASOV, lasted 4 hours, and HIMMLER had been so agreeable that he had even invited VLASOV to have lunch with him.

VLASOV also said that HIMMLER had studied the plan for the Manifesto of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in detail and personally added his own corrections. In further conversation with VLASOV and General ASCHENBRENNER, I came to an agreement regarding the formation of the RLA air force, which was to consist of one fighter squadron, one recon attack squadron, one communications squadron, an anti-aircraft regiment, and a battalion of paratroopers. Later, ASCHENBRENNER informed me that I could also begin the formation of a communications regiment.

According to this agreement, I assembled the personnel for these units and presented them for confirmation to VLASOV, as the commanding officer of the RLA, and to TRUKHIN, as the executive officer. After the confirmation of personnel, they were given to General ASCHENBRENNER, however they were not used, since typical German personnel had been used as the core.

On returning to Karlsbad, I continued putting the headquarters of the air force together, to which I added Captain NAUMENKO as the head of personnel and Major ILIUKHIN as head of the propaganda division. Somewhat later, TRUKHIN sent to me Colonel of Aviation BAIDAK Leonid Gavrilovich and Major KLIMOVICH, whom I also added to my headquarters staff.

The other activity of mine was gathering personnel for the formation of the above-mentioned aviation units. In working on this, I agreed with General ASCHENBRENNER that the ferrying groups that I had previously assembled would be assigned to my command. We agreed that the entire technical personnel of the Eastern Squadron would be sent for training on the Messerschmidt airplane at a special technical training center. There, over the course of three weeks, they underwent training and then returned to me in Karlsbad.

Lastly, I conducted work selecting personnel for the newly-formed units from among the POWs. In the newspaper Will of the People [*Volya naroda*] published by ZHILENKOV, I placed an announcement that all pilots, aviation technicians, anti-aircraft specialists, communications people, and paratroopers could apply to serve in the RLA air force through General VLASOV's front office. I looked through all applications received from POWs and workers taken to Germany, and through my personnel department informed them that they had been enlisted. I simultaneously sent information about these individuals to the

German intermediary headquarters for the air force in order that at any moment people in my command could be called upon. The intermediary headquarters was created in Karlsbad in October 1944 and was headed by Colonel BAUER, later by Colonel VEGE, and lastly by Colonel ZARGE.

On 13 November, 1944, I was invited to Prague to the inaugural session of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR). With me to Prague traveled Colonel BAUER and IDOL. On 14 November, 1944, they held a ceremonial session of the committee in one of the best palaces of the city.

QUESTION: Who was included in the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: The makeup of CLPR had been confirmed ahead of time in Berlin. The committee included: VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, Colonel MIANDROV, General ZAKUTNY, and several civilian individuals of various ethnicities. In total, around 100 people were inducted into the committee. I, for reasons unknown to me, was not inducted into the committee at that time.

QUESTION: What issues were resolved at the first session of CLPR?

ANSWER: At the beginning of the session, VLASOV was elected as chair of the committee, and after that one of the officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs gave a short welcome speech in the name of the German government. After him, VLASOV spoke, reading the Manifesto of CLPR, after which the committee welcomed German Minister Frank. After the ceremonies, there was a banquet. I returned from Prague to Karlsbad.

QUESTION: What did you do when you were in Karlsbad?

ANSWER: In Karlsbad I continued the selection of personnel for the future formation of the air force of the RLA, prepared the new aerodrome at Eger (about 40 kilometers from Karlsbad), and together with the intermediary German headquarters put together training plans for the newly-formed units.

In parallel with this, I appointed command staff to conduct the training of personnel. The head of the training center appointed by me was Colonel BAIDAK, and the engineer was SHENDRIK. The German headquarters also appointed a head and engineer of the center from the German side. I continued with this preparatory work until Göring published the order for the formation of the RLA air force at the end of December 1944.

QUESTION: Give us the contents of GÖRING's order.

ANSWER: With his order, GÖRING allowed the formation of an air force for the RLA consisting of fighter, reconnaissance, and attack squadrons, a communications squadron, an anti-aircraft regiment, and a battalion of paratroopers. Further on in the order, it was indicated that General ASCHENBRENNER was authorized to create a training center to prepare personnel for these formations and to equip them with German supplies. After training, the order indicated, all the newly-formed units, together with their equipment, were to be fully given over to the Russian command, headed by VLASOV. When I read this order, I came to the conclusion that it did not suit us, since it allowed for German interference in the formation and training of our units. Trying to clarify the details of this issue, I decided to travel to Berlin to see VLASOV.

QUESTION: When did you travel to Berlin in connection with GÖRING's order?

ANSWER: I arrived in Berlin in the first half of January 1945. At first I went to see TRUKHIN, who supported me, and together we went to report to VLASOV. He contacted ASCHENBRENNER by telephone, and he then invited us to come and see him. At ASCHENBRENNER's, I explained my thoughts regarding the desirability of forming the units of the RLA air force using only Russian forces. As a result of a short discussion, ASCHENBRENNER agreed that in the disciplinary sense, the newly-formed units would better obey commanders appointed by me, but that the training work for these units would be handled temporarily by the Germans.

At the conclusion of our conversation, I turned to ASCHENBRENNER and VLASOV with a request to transfer all pilots from the groups I had previously formed into my command as soon as possible, and also to send me a reliable person for the post of executive officer of the Air Force Headquarters.

In accord with the last request, about three weeks later, at the initiative of TRUKHIN, former Colonel VANIUKHIN Aleksandr Fyodorovich[116] was sent to me; he had worked up until then in the Russian department of propaganda for Jumneta under the German Ministry of Propaganda. When I was leaving Berlin, I also asked TRUKHIN, as the executive officer of the RLA, to send me people to staff the units indicated in GÖRING's order.

QUESTION: Did TRUKHIN fulfill your request?

ANSWER: Yes, some two weeks after my departure from Berlin, TRUKHIN sent to me the following people: for the post of commander of the air defense regiment, Lt. Col. of the RLA and White émigré VASILYEV; for the post of commander of the communications regiment, Major of the RLA LANTUKH; and for the post of commander of the paratrooper battalion, Lt. Col. of the RLA KOTSAR.

Immediately upon arrival, these individuals set to the formation of their respective units, receiving personnel from the German intermediary headquarters. The individuals sent by the German headquarters were largely POWs recruited into the service of the RLA. By the end of January, the pilots that had been working in the plane-ferrying groups arrived. At the beginning of February 1945, I used these pilots to form the fighter squadron under the command of former Captain of the Red Army BYCHKOV, who later received the rank of Major in the RLA. This squadron was deployed to Eger, near Karlsbad. At the beginning of March, the squadron was redeployed to a new airfield at Deutsche Brod (to the east of Prague). The intelligence-attack squadron was located in that same location, under the command of former Sr. Lieutenant of the Red Army IVANOV and later of Captain SHIYAN. That squadron was formed by me in the beginning of April 1945 and had 16 airplanes. The fighter squadron had the same number of planes. Both squadrons continued to run training flights for the whole time.

QUESTION: And what were the other units that you formed occupied in doing?

ANSWER: The anti-aircraft regiment, the communications regiment, and the paratrooper battalion were likewise involved only in training activity. The communications regiment and the paratrooper battalion were training in Eger, and the anti-aircraft regiment in Plyan, 11 kilometers from Marienbad. By April 1945, there were approximately three thousand people in the units as a whole and they all were preparing to take part in the fight against the Red Army. I moved with my headquarters from Karlsbad to Marienbad in the middle of January 1945 and remained there until the American forces took the city.

QUESTION: What were the functions of your headquarters?

ANSWER: The Air Force Headquarters of the RLA, led by Colonel of the RLA VANIUSHIN, oversaw flight training work in the units. Under VANIUSHIN, there was a technical unit that

provided the squadrons with material needs and a personnel unit that oversaw the makeup and management of personnel matters in the units. Directly under me, in addition to the headquarters, there was a propaganda division that conducted agitation and propaganda among the POWs within the German Air Force and propaganda in the units that I had formed. Until January 1945, the head of the Propaganda Division was Major of the RLA ILIUKHIN, and after January, it was Major of the RLA ALBOV, who had worked until then as the head of the Russian department of the German radio center in Koningsberg.

After ALBOV's arrival, ILIUKHIN became his deputy for propaganda. ALBOV himself received orders regarding propaganda from Lieutenant General of the RLA ZHILENKOV, the head of the Main Administration for Propaganda of CLPR, and in part from me.

The activity of my Propaganda Division included overseeing the work of the propagandists within the Air Force and writing instructions for them, instructions which were then presented to me for corrections. I gave these instructions to the German intermediary headquarters for approval, where propaganda was overseen, as before, by Major SCHMIDT. Confirmed instructions were sent out to their destinations. Along with sending out instructions, the Propaganda Division conducted continual correspondence with the propagandists, giving them appropriate orders and directions, mainly in order to organize the recruitment of POWs into the RLA.

To give reports and receive instructions, the propagandists also traveled in person to Marienbad. Within the Air Force units of the RLA, propaganda work was led by assistants to commanders for propaganda whom I appointed. Their work was directed by the Propaganda Division.

Lastly, under my leadership, the Propaganda Division created courses for propagandists in March 1945, for approximately 50 people to take the place of the Dabendorf courses, which had by that time ceased operation due to evacuation.

In addition to the Propaganda Division, ALBOV also oversaw the arts sector, which included a traveling troupe that gave concerts to the RLA units. There was also a photography sector that oversaw the organization of anti-Soviet photo display cases in the units.

In March 1945, ALBOV created, on my orders, a print sector, which at the end of the month began to publish in Prague the weekly newspaper of the RLA Air Force, *Our Wings*. In practice, this newspaper was a branch of the Main Administration of Propaganda of CLPR, since ZHILENKOV could no longer publish his paper by that time due to the move to Karlsbad. Giving means to the newspaper *Our Wings* allowed ZHILENKOV to tell ALBOV that the newspaper should take on the entire activity of CLPR and the RLA. The paper was edited by an official from the Main Administration of Propaganda of CLPR, BULDEEV, and the chief editor was ALBOV. I personally provided the general leadership for the editorial staff of the newspaper.

Aside from the publication of the newspaper, ALBOV intended to organize the printing of various anti-Soviet brochures for the courses for propagandists, however he did not manage to do this. The only other thing he had time to do was to put out fifty thousand cards featuring VLASOV's picture. For myself, in addition to what has already been stated, I twice gave anti-Soviet reports at meetings of Soviet citizens driven to work in Germany, and once before the population of Marienbad in connection with the advance of the American army. My first speech took place in August 1944 in one of the factories outside Berlin, the second in January 1945 in Eger, and the third in April 1945.

That is actually all that I can testify to about my activities in the role of commanding officer of the RLA Air Force.

QUESTION: That is far from everything. You still have not told us about your connections with German intelligence.

ANSWER: I was connected to German intelligence through Major of the RLA KAYUKOV, who had worked with me as deputy head of propaganda and later as the head of the Security Division. Since it was necessary to expose individuals within the units who were inclined against VLASOV, I gave this job to KAYUKOV, formally appointing him to the post of leader of oversight.

In March, a representative of German intelligence, a colonel whose name I do not know, arrived in Marienbad as a colleague of the German intermediary headquarters of the RLA Air Force, and he got in touch with KAYUKOV. He had a conversation with me in advance of this, during which he informed me that he had arrived to organize counterintelligence work in the units under me.

On the day before the arrival of said lieutenant colonel, KAYUKOV came to me and told me that he had received an order from the head of the Security Division of CLPR, KALUGIN, to organize a separate security division within the Air Force headquarters. A few days later, KALUGIN sent two lieutenants and a captain named TUKHOLNIKOV to work in this unit. TUKHOLNIKOV was appointed deputy to KAYUKOV. KAYUKOV sent the two newly-arrived lieutenants for counterintelligence in the communications regiment, the paratrooper battalion, and the air squadrons.

QUESTION: What did KAYUKOV actually do in the post of head of the security division?

ANSWER: KAYUKOV reported directly to KALUGIN on the results of counterintelligence work. He informed me of the results only in broad strokes. I remember that at the end of February 1945, KAYUKOV reported to me on the arrest of a former pilot of the Eastern Squadron named GORSKY, who had flown over to the Red Army and then somehow ended up in Vienna, or maybe in Prague. GORSKY was turned over to the Germans for the investigation of his case.

On approximately 15 April, 1945, on the day before our evacuation from Marienbad, KAYUKOV's deputy TUKHOLNIKOV reported to me that 18 people whose fates needed to be decided were being held under arrest in the security division. The majority of those arrested were accused of actions against Vlasov, but investigations had been concluded against only six of them.

QUESTION: Did you give the order for the arrest of these individuals?

ANSWER: No, I did not give a single sanction for arrest. TUKHOLNIKOV informed me about the fact that so many people were under lock and key only on 15 April, when it was necessary to decide their fate.

QUESTION: How was the fate of those arrested decided?

ANSWER: TUKHOLNIKOV presented me with a list of all those arrested and proposed that the six of them for which the case had been completed be sent to the firing squad. I presented that list to VLASOV, writing on it, "On your orders." After that, TUKHOLNIKOV, in my presence, reported everything to VLASOV, who was located at that time in Marienbad. VLASOV ordered that the indicated six be shot and the rest be freed.

QUESTION: In this way, the decision to shoot the six Soviet patriots—those who had acted against the Germans and the traitor VLASOV—was made with your participation?

ANSWER: Yes, I admit that.

QUESTION: And who carried out the order from VLASOV to shoot these individuals?

ANSWER: I think that it was the Security Division, since earlier TUKHOLNIKOV had asked me for vodka for the people who would be doing the shooting. I gave TUKHOLNIKOV the vodka.

QUESTION: Your heinous crimes and connection with the German intelligence were not limited to this. Tell the truth to the end.

ANSWER: Apart from what I have already testified, I had no other contact with members of German intelligence. True, there was one case when I ran into the activity of RLA intelligence, but I had nothing to do with that activity.

QUESTION: What case do you mean?

ANSWER: Somewhere between 10 and 12 April, 1945, VLASOV and ZHILENKOV came from Karlsbad to see me in Marienbad. They proposed that we go together to attend the graduation of agents completing the CLPR intelligence school, located in the woods some seven kilometers from Marienbad. KAYUKOV—who, as he himself told me, had previously been connected with the school—also went with us. At the school, we were met by KALUGIN, along with two or three German officers and the teaching staff. The attendees of the school, numbering about 16, were lined up in formation. They were all about twenty years of age. VLASOV congratulated each of them, after which a lunch was arranged. At the school, VLASOV gave a speech. He said that those completing the school looked forward to completing special assignments in the Soviet rear territory and that they would be challenged by great hardships. He underscored the difficulty of the work ahead and the consequent need to demonstrate determination and tenacity, and he called on the agents to believe firmly in an RLA victory.

At the end of the lunch, the head of the school showed us photographs of all the graduating agents of the school in the clothes that they would need to wear while working in the Soviet rear territory. Some of them were photographed in the uniform of

the Red Army and others in civilian clothes. After talking with the agents some time longer, we left.

QUESTION: What kind of assignments were the agents who completed the CLPR intelligence school being inserted into the Soviet Union for?

ANSWER: Neither VLASOV nor anyone else said anything about it. When I asked that question of KAYUKOV, he answered that the agents would receive their assignments only several hours before insertion behind the front lines. I do not know whether they were inserted into the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: In that case, why did VLASOV invite you to go to the graduation of the agents from this intelligence school?

ANSWER: I do not think VLASOV had any particular goal. He took me as a general of the RLA.

QUESTION: When did you become a general of the RLA?

ANSWER: The rank of Major General of Aviation of the RLA was given to me at the end of February 1945, when I was appointed as commanding officer of the RLA Air Force and member of CLPR. Before then, from June 1943, I wore the uniform of a Colonel of the RLA.

QUESTION: What did your activities as a member of CLPR include?

ANSWER: I was brought into the membership of CLPR at the proposal of VLASOV at a session of the committee in early February 1945. I did not have any particular position within CLPR. I participated in its sessions twice—in March and April 1945. Both sessions took place in Karlsbad, to whence VLASOV and the other leaders of CLPR had retreated by that time. At the first session, VLASOV gave a report on the current military and political situation. Since the Red Army had developed a successful incursion into the territory of Germany at that time, VLASOV decided to calm us, trying to prove that the German army was still strong enough to organize a response and that contradictions among the Allies would not allow them to act together against Germany for long.

VLASOV finished this part of the report with a call to more urgently fulfill our obligations to the committee. As for the prospects for CLPR's work, VLASOV stated that almost all of the national committees had now joined his committee and therefore CLPR's influence was growing and becoming stronger.

After VLASOV, many other members of the committee took part in the proceedings, and then decisions were made about accepting new members into CLPR from the other national committees. At the end of the session, MALYSHKIN was elected VLASOV's deputy.

At the second session of CLPR in April, there was a report from the head of the Main Civil Affairs Administration, ZAKUTNY, on the subject of work among the Soviet citizens who had been taken to work in Germany. In his report, ZAKUTNY mainly touched on the question of spreading anti-Soviet propaganda among the Russian working in German enterprises.

To support continual contact with these workers and lead the political work among them, the Main Civil Affairs Administration of CLPR, according to ZAKUTNY, sent authorities out throughout all the districts, and representatives of these authorities to individual enterprises. I took part in the proceedings on this question.

After this, a member of the committee, Professor TATARINOV, gave a speech with his proposals. He said that the day had come to reach an agreement with the Germans on turning CLPR into a Russian government that had the rights of a German ally. In addition, TATARINOV or ZAKUTNY, I do not remember exactly which, talked about the necessity of creating our own organization—something like a party that would bring the policies of the committee to life. No decisions were made regarding these proposals during the session.

QUESTION: Aside from this session, did you meet with members of CLPR during this period?

ANSWER: In addition to the instances I mentioned above, I met with VLASOV twice in Eger, where he came to learn the status of the formation and training of the units of the RLA Air Force. The first time, he came to Eger with General ASCHENBRENNER at the beginning of February 1945. At the time, they were headed to Münsingen on the Swiss border, where TRUKHIN had formed the 1st and 2nd divisions of the RLA, and also the officers' school.

When he arrived in Eger, VLASOV heard my report, after which a parade was organized in which the technical flight staff of the squadrons and the communications regiment took part. After the parade, there was a lunch and VLASOV spoke with the pilots.

In the evening, ALBOV organized a concert through his theater group.

The second time, VLASOV and ASCHENBRENNER came to Eger in the second half of February 1945. That visit was also while they were passing through to Münsingen. When they arrived, a parade was once again organized for them, then lunch, and after lunch a brief general meeting of the whole garrison and a concert in the evening. During the parade, the entire flight staff of the Eastern Squadron and the ferrying groups were awarded the German medal "For Military Service" on the orders of VLASOV and ASCHENBRENNER. At the general meeting of the garrison, VLASOV talked about the military and political situation of Germany and called on them to continue their studies with determination. He also hinted that even if Germany was broken, the RLA and the committee ruling it would continue the fight against the Soviet regime, relying on the support of democratic governments. At the end of his speech, VLASOV announced that he was giving me the rank of Major General of the RLA.

At the end of March 1945, VLASOV and ASCHENBRENNER came to see me again at the headquarters. They stayed in the building of the German intermediary headquarters and invited me to have dinner with them. Over dinner, I asked VLASOV and ASCHENBRENNER to take measures to strengthen the recruitment of people for the units I was forming. On the spot, ASCHENBRENNER gave the necessary orders to the intermediary headquarters and as soon as the first days of April reserves began to arrive fairly intensively.

That same month, VLASOV came to see me again at Marienbad. He was accompanied by TRUKHIN, who was very unhappy that I had informed him of the progress of the formation of the RLA aviation units only infrequently. From Marienbad, I went with VLASOV and TRUKHIN to Plyan, where the anti-aircraft unit was being put together. TRUKHIN familiarized himself with the training of this regiment, as well as with the other units located in Marienbad, in some detail.

Two days later, TRUKHIN came alone to Eger and familiarized himself with the progress of the formation and training of the communications regiment. At that meeting, I asked TRUKHIN what VLASOV intended to do next. TRUKHIN answered that as far as he knew, VLASOV was conducting negotiations with the Americans through the Swiss embassy in

Germany. VLASOV himself confirmed as much to me in one of our conversations. Then he informed me that he intended to send his ambassador, ZHEREBKOV, across the Swiss border.

I saw VLASOV for the last time on approximately 15 April, 1945, in Marienbad, where he stopped by en route from Karlsbad to the first division. Since by that time the Americans had already approached close to Marienbad, VLASOV gave me an order to move my units to Nörn and then to move toward the Swiss border to unite forces with TRUKHIN. He said that he intended to move all the RLA to the Swiss border and then, relying on the armed forces, conduct talks with the Americans. To my question of where he himself was headed, VLASOV answered that he would go to the first or second division of the RLA. The first division was commanded by General of the RLA BUNYACHENKO and the second by ZVEREV. I had never met either BUNYACHENKO or ZVEREV. According to my orders from VLASOV, I could not unite with their units.

QUESTION: Why?

ANSWER: I did not have time to do so, since the Americans—the same forces with which ASCHENBRENNER and I had made contact on 22 April, 1945 and arranged to cross over to their side—had blocked the road in the region of Nörn.

QUESTION: At what location did you cross over to the Americans?

ANSWER: The forward units of the American forces that received us directly were located in Zweisel, some 35 kilometers to the southwest of Nörn. In Nörn, my column of about 2,000 people was joined by a Belorussian regiment under the SS.[117] This regiment also had about 2,000 people. In addition, the Lötzen secret school,[118] which was headed by Lt. Col. VALVACH, also joined me in Nörn.

When we arrived at the Americans' location, I was separated from the main column and taken to Riven (France) and then to Cherbourg. From Cherbourg, I was taken to a military POW camp located 40 kilometers outside the city and held there with imprisoned German generals until 15 August, 1945.

On 16 August, I was moved to Cherbourg and in spite of my protests, I was handed over to representatives of the Soviet command. Understanding that due to the crimes that I had committed, I would have to take responsibility before the Soviet

people, I attempted to commit suicide at the very moment of my arrest.

Somewhat earlier, in order to avoid this responsibility, I had written a letter to Eisenhower in which I had stated that I did not wish to return to the Soviet Union and had asked to be enlisted into the service of the American army.

Recorded from my words correctly, read by me. MALTSEV

INTERROGATED BY: DEPUTY SECTION HEAD OF INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH" — Major PUTINTSEV

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. 83–112. Original.

8. Transcripts of the interrogations of N. S. Shatov and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 8.1. Transcript of the interrogation of N. S. Shatov.

31 January, 1946

INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested SHATOV Nikolai Stepanovich

SHATOV, N. S. Born 1901 in the village of Shatov in Kotelnichesky region, Kirov District, Russian, citizen of the USSR, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1929, former head of artillery support for the Northern Caucasus Military District,[119] Lieutenant Colonel

QUESTION: On 5 September, 1945, you were handed over by the Americans to the command of the Soviet occupation forces of Germany[120] as one of a number of repatriated individuals. How did you end up on the side of the Allies?

ANSWER: In May 1945, after the capitulation of the German army, I escaped to the zone of the American forces, worried about being taken by the Red Army.

QUESTION: Why did you run from the Red Army?

ANSWER: I had committed heinous crimes against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Which crimes do you admit that you are guilty of?

ANSWER: In 1941, I held the post of head of artillery support for the headquarters of the Northern Caucasus Military District located in Rostov-on-Don, and I was convinced of the success of the Germans on the front and thought that the Soviet regime would be overthrown by the Germans. In addition to this, I knew that my command was not satisfied with my work. Due to these factors, I decided to betray the Homeland and cross over to the side of the enemy.

QUESTION: And did you carry out this crime?

ANSWER: Seeing as the Germans at that time were still far from Rostov-on-Don, where I was serving, I did not have the chance to cross over to their side, so I deserted from the Red Army and hid in the city in a private apartment, awaiting the advance of the German forces.

QUESTION: Indicate the exact place where you hid until the advance of the German forces.

ANSWER: On 21 October, 1941, with the help of the woman I lived with in Rostov-on-Don, NESTERENKO Feofana Matveevna, at the address Krasnoarmeiskaya St., House 21, I went to live with her female relative, whose name I do not know. The exact address of the apartment where I hid I cannot say for sure, but it was located not far from the building that houses the district headquarters.

After the Germans occupied Rostov-on-Don, NESTERENKO and I destroyed our party identification, presented ourselves to the German commandant's offices, and offered our services. At that time I received no reply, since due to the Red Army's advance on the city, the Germans were in a panic and had no time for me. Not wanting to remain any longer in Rostov-on-Don, I escaped to Taganrog, which was occupied by the Germans.

QUESTION: What did you do upon your arrival in Taganrog?

ANSWER: Upon arrival in Taganrog, after three or four days I presented myself to the burgomaster of the city, whose name I do not know, and announced that I was a lieutenant colonel of the Red Army. I told of my hostility towards the Soviet regime and said that I had voluntarily crossed over to the side of the Germans.

I asked that the burgomaster give me documents conferring the right to reside in German-occupied territory and offer me a place to serve in a German institution. I was given residency documents by the German police in Taganrog, but the burgomaster declined my offer to serve, stating that I would need to consult the German commandant's offices on this issue.

QUESTION: And did you go to the German commandant's offices?

ANSWER: Yes, I went to the German field commandant's offices for the city of Taganrog looking for work. After a short questioning by the staff of the commandant's offices, I, as a former military service member of the Red Army, was sent to the headquarters of the German military unit deployed in Taganrog, and after a brief interrogation there, the German officers handed me over to a higher headquarters—I do not remember where it was located—where the Germans again subjected me to interrogation.

QUESTION: What things did the Germans interrogate you about?

ANSWER: After I explained to the German officer my reason for running away from the Red Army, I was asked questions of a military nature: what Red Army units did I know that were operating on the front against the Germans? But I could not answer this since I had not been at the front and did not know the makeup of the units operating against the Germans.

The next question posed to me was where troops were brought in from, how many were from the region of Rostov-on-Don, and what contributed to the Red Army's success in freeing the city? To this question I told the Germans my thoughts: that the troops had obviously been brought in from the Far East, but I could not say how many there were and how that operation was conducted, since I had been in hiding in Rostov-on-Don for a month and I did not know anything about the plans or capabilities of the Red Army.

The Germans also asked what the age was of those called to service in the Red Army, where the formation of units took place, and how the units were armed, and to these questions I gave the Germans information that I knew about unit formation from my period of service in the Red Army. I also indicated that the Red Army's armaments were insufficient and stated that the newly

reformed units had nothing to be armed with. I did not know anything about the locations of formations.

In addition to this, I was asked a number of questions concerning my knowledge of artillery, its tactics, and the Red Army's armaments. I answered all the questions that the German officers put to me truthfully and in accordance with the information that I had about the Red Army.

QUESTION: Where did the Germans send you after the interrogation?

ANSWER: After the interrogation, I asked the German officers to offer me some service, however they were not satisfied with my request and sent me to a camp for military POWs in Mariupol, where I was held until March 1942, after which I was moved to the officers' camp in the city of Lötzen (Germany), where I was held until July 1942. While in the camp for military POWs, I addressed the German commandants of the camps both in writing and orally, asking them to offer me some kind of service role.

QUESTION: Did the Germans fulfill your request?

ANSWER: Yes, they did. In July 1942, I was transferred to the officers' camp in Hammelburg (Germany), where after one month I was appointed by the Germans as the storeroom clerk for the camp warehouse.

QUESTION: What did your traitorous service to the Germans consist of in the Hammelburg camp?

ANSWER: While in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs, I took part in the work of a so-called "military-historical office" created by the Germans.

QUESTION: For what purpose did the Germans create this military-historical office?

ANSWER: The Military-Historical Office was created on the initiative of German intelligence agencies to collect intelligence material on the Red Army. The Germans placed former Colonel of the Red Army ZAKHAROV at the head of this office.

QUESTION: In what way did the Germans use the military-historical office for the collection of intelligence information on the Red Army?

ANSWER: The office head, ZAKHAROV, on the instruction of the Germans, proposed that the Red Army officers being held in the Hammelburg camp write down any secret information

about the Red Army units in which they had served before imprisonment.

QUESTION: What role did you play in the military-historical office?

ANSWER: During the time I was working with the Military-Historical Office that the Germans had created, I wrote a report on secret information that I knew about the Northern Caucasus Military District up until the beginning of the war with Germany;

the deployment of the district's military units since the beginning of the war;

the formation of units and details of their armaments, ammunition, and other things that I knew might interest the Germans.

After writing this report, in mid-September 1942 I was transferred to the service of the German military construction organization TODT.

QUESTION: But you still have not told us about all of your traitorous activity in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs. In which anti-Soviet organizations did you participate?

ANSWER: I must admit that in truth, apart from my work in the Military-Historical Office, I was a member of the anti-Soviet organization that existed in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs called the Russian Labor People's Party (RLPP).

QUESTION: When did you join the anti-Soviet organization RLPP?

ANSWER: On arriving to the Hammelburg camp, I learned of the existence among those POWs being held there of an anti-Soviet organization called the Russian Labor People's Party, which was headed at that time by former Colonel of the Red Army PETROV. When I had familiarized myself with the goals of this anti-Soviet organization, I found that its goals coincided with my anti-Soviet convictions, and when I met with PETROV, I expressed my desire to join the RLPP.

QUESTION: What was this Russian Labor People's Party exactly?

ANSWER: The Russian Labor People's Party was created by the Germans and had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the establishment of a bourgeois order on the territory of the Soviet Union with the help of the Germans. Along with this, the RLPP sought to attract a large number of POWs into its ranks and to create from them its own army for the armed fight against

the Soviet regime. It conducted active opposition to those POWs who tried to impede its anti-Soviet work within the camp. In this anti-Soviet organization was created a leadership center, the so-called committee of the RLPP, which included MEANDROV, BRODNIKOV, LIUBIMTSEV, and ZHUKOVSKY, who led all the work of the organization, conducting anti-Soviet propaganda among the POWs and recruiting new members into the organization, and additionally undertaking the recruitment of military POWs into the RLA units that had been formed by the Germans.

QUESTION: How was your entrance into the anti-Soviet organization formalized?

ANSWER: When I joined, I submitted a statement to the committee of the RLPP with a request to receive me into the organization and two recommendations from members who knew of my desire to fight against the Soviet regime. After reviewing my statement, the committee accepted me as a member of the organization.

QUESTION: Who recommended you for membership in the RLPP?

ANSWER: I received recommendations to join the anti-Soviet organization from POWs held in the Hammelburg camp—former officers of the Red Army PETROV and LIUBIMTSEV, who by that time were already members of the RLPP organization.

QUESTION: Who are PETROV and LIUBIMTSEV?

ANSWER: PETROV, whose name and patronymic I do not know, was a former colonel of the Red Army and served as the head of artillery support for a military unit. LIUBIMTSEV Nikolai Nikolaevich, former lieutenant colonel of the Red Army, served as the head of a topographical unit of the sixth army. He surrendered to the Germans in 1942.

QUESTION: How did PETROV and LIUBIMTSEV know of your anti-Soviet leanings?

ANSWER: While at the Lötzen camp, in conversation with PETROV and LIUBIMTSEV, I often expressed my hostile attitude toward the Soviet regime and my desire to fight against the Soviet government, and therefore during my admission process to the anti-Soviet organization, PETROV and LIUBIMTSEV gave their guarantee that I was of like mind.

QUESTION: How was the anti-Soviet work of the RLPP practically structured in the camp?

ANSWER: In addition to nurturing the anti-Soviet attitudes of the organization's members by giving lectures and distributing anti-Soviet literature, every member of the organization was obliged to conduct anti-Soviet propaganda among the POWs held in the camp. As a result of this, during the time I was at the Hammelburg camp, the numbers of the organization increased, reaching 120 members.

In August 1942, the former commander of the 41st Rifle Division of the Southwest Front, Colonel BOYARSKY, arrived at the Hammelburg camp. He announced that with the permission of the German command he was forming the so-called "Russian Volunteer Army" for armed conflict against the Soviet government and proposed that we join that army. At a general meeting, the committee of the RLPP put to members the question of the entire membership of the RLPP joining the anti-Soviet military unit that BOYARSKY had put together. This decision of the committee was approved by the organization and everyone, myself included, joined the so-called volunteer army, since it corresponded with our goal to begin an armed conflict against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Were you a member of the committee of the anti-Soviet organization RLPP?

ANSWER: Yes, I was a member of the committee of the Russian Labor People's Party.

QUESTION: When did you enter the committee?

ANSWER: A month after I joined the RLPP—that is, in August 1942—I was brought into the committee. In September of that year, the Germans appointed me the committee chair and I led all anti-Soviet work of the organization.

QUESTION: Who put forward your candidacy for the committee of the RLPP?

ANSWER: I was brought into the committee at the proposal of the committee members, who secured approval for the issue from the representative of German intelligence in the camp, Sonderführer ARNOL.

QUESTION: What work of yours recommended you to the German intelligence?

ANSWER: The representatives of German intelligence at the Hammelburg camp for military POWs knew that I had voluntarily crossed over to the side of the Germans. Furthermore, my anti-Soviet activity among the POWs and cooperation with the so-

called Military-Historical Office that the Germans had created to compile secret reports on Red Army units gave them a broad base for believing that I was a person hostile to the Soviet regime and capable of conducting active fighting against the USSR.

Due to this, ARNOL supported my candidacy for committee membership. As chair of the RLPP committee, I had constant communication with ARNOL and reported to him on individuals who were conducting anti-fascist activity and blocking anti-Soviet activity among the prisoners of the camp.

QUESTION: Who did you report to the Germans?

ANSWER: In September-October 1942, when I was in ARNOL's office, I reported to him that General SHEPETOV[121] and Major NOVODAROV, who were being held at the Hammelburg camp, were conducting anti-fascist agitation and impeding the conduct of anti-Soviet work by the committee and members of the RLPP. I do not remember the names of the other individuals I had to report to the Germans.

QUESTION: From what sources did you receive material on the anti-fascist leanings of the POWs?

ANSWER: I reported to ARNOL on the anti-fascist leanings among the POWs based on my own observations; in addition, I used information from several members of the organization.

QUESTION: Who among the RLPP members did provocational work?

ANSWER: Former commander of the 13th Rifle Division and member of the RLPP Major General NAUMOV[122] had actively proven himself in that regard.

QUESTION: Which of the POWs did NAUMOV inform you about?

ANSWER: In September 1942, Soviet General SHEPETOV, who was being held in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs, stated in front of other prisoners to one of the active members of the RLPP, Major DIKY, "You, DIKY, are a traitor to the Homeland and as soon as we are freed from German imprisonment, we will hang you on the first branch we see. Your noose is waiting."

At that time, an anonymous note about NAUMOV was found in the washroom. In the note it was written that NAUMOV was a traitor to the Homeland and was suggested that he take off his general's insignia, since he was not worthy to wear it.

When NAUMOV found out about this, he suspected SHEPETOV and Major NOVODAROV of being the authors of the

note. NAUMOV began to stop in to see me often, and during our meetings, he would report to me on the attitudes of these individuals, also informing the Germans about them. I approved NAUMOV's prevocational actions.

QUESTION: What other anti-Soviet work did you conduct as the leader of the RLPP?

ANSWER: In September 1942, as the chair of the committee, I led a meeting of the members of the organization at which I gave a report and set the following goals:

To strengthen anti-Soviet propaganda among the POWs and to attract new members to the RLPP.

To conduct active propaganda work so that POWs would join the military units formed by the Germans.

To conduct work to convince military POWs to submit reports on Red Army units to the so-called Military-Historical Office.

To expose individuals who were conducting anti-fascist work in the camp and actively fight against them.

In order to carry out the missions I had set for them, persons authorized by the RLPP committee set to work among the POWs in the barracks, and they periodically reported to the committee and to me personally about work they had accomplished. Along with this, a special commission was created under the committee that focused on recruiting military POWs into the military units created to participate in battles on the side of the German forces.

In November 1942, after the Germans had been convinced of my loyalty to them, I was freed from the camp and sent to serve in the organization TODT. After handing over the leadership of the RLPP to a member of the committee, Major BEDRITSKY, I left for Berlin, where the Germans were forming the Russian Administration of TODT, named "Volga." In December 1942, as a member of the Volga team, I left for the city of Borisov, in Minsk District, where on arrival I took an oath to HITLER.

The Volga Agency created by the Germans was a paramilitary organization that conducted work arming fortifications, building bridges and roads, and repairing the German army's vehicles and armaments. For its work, Volga used both POWs and Soviet citizens driven from German-occupied regions, and these workers were kept under guard at the sites where work was being conducted.

QUESTION: Who did the Germans take to work in the Volga Agency?

ANSWER: From among the Hammelburg POWs, the Germans took specialists in the construction of fortifications, bridges, and roads and in equipment repair to serve in the TODT organization.

QUESTION: But you do not have such expertise. Why did the Germans accept you into the service of TODT?

ANSWER: I was accepted into the Volga agency in an administrative capacity.

QUESTION: What post did the Germans give you?

ANSWER: I served in the post of head of the propaganda department of the Volga team. In December 1942, when I traveled out to the Borisov region, part of our team, including myself, was sent to lead the peat and timber harvest in the region of Beloe Boloto, 25 kilometers from Borisov, where there were around 800 POWs and Soviet citizens driven out by the Germans. When we arrived on the site, my deputy, Lt. Colonel TSIGELNIK, and I set to work conducting anti-Soviet propaganda among the workers and POWs.

Visiting the earthen houses where the Soviet citizens and POWs were housed, I gave them anti-Soviet talks in which I slandered the Soviet reality and the members of the government of the Soviet Union, calling on them to serve the German occupiers faithfully.

In addition to this, in January 1943, because the partisans had begun increased activity in the area of Borisov, TSIGELNIK and I—on the proposal of the commandant, former Major General of the Red Army NAUMOV, who had by that time arrived from the Hammelburg camp—wrote anti-Soviet leaflets to be dropped on the partisans.

QUESTION: What did you write in these anti-Soviet leaflets?

ANSWER: In the anti-Soviet leaflets that I wrote for the partisans, I slandered the Soviet reality, praised the Germans, and called on the partisans to cease fighting and come over to the German side. At the end of January 1943, I was transferred to a new place of service—in the so-called "higher Russo-German school" created by the Germans in Borisov.

QUESTION: Who did this school prepare?

ANSWER: The Russo-German school created by the Germans retrained technical engineering staff to work in TODT's

teams. In all, the school trained about 350 people, who, upon completion of the school, were sent to leadership positions in various TODT teams located in the occupied territories of the USSR.

In September 1943, this school ceased its work, and in October of that year, I and the others serving TODT left for Berlin, where I received an appointment to work in the so-called children's camp.

QUESTION: What was this camp about?

ANSWER: The TODT organization had created a camp in the suburbs of Berlin where adolescents who had been driven from the occupied Soviet regions by the Germans were kept. After appropriate training, they were sent to work in German industry.

QUESTION: What criminal work did you do in this camp?

ANSWER: In the children's camp, I was the leader of a group and, in accordance with the instructions of the Germans, undertook the fostering of children, instilling in them obedience to the Germans and views hostile to the Soviet regime. In June 1944, with the assistance of the former brigade commander of the Red Army BOGDANOV Mikhail Vasilievich, I moved into the service of the inspector group under the Eastern Division of the German Armed Forces.

QUESTION: How do you know BOGDANOV?

ANSWER: I have known BOGDANOV Mikhail Vasilievich since August 1942, when we were both in the camp for POWs in Hammelburg.

QUESTION: What criminal activity did BOGDANOV conduct?

ANSWER: While in the Hammelburg camp, BOGDANOV participated in the work of the Military-Historical Office, writing down information that he knew about the Red Army and sending it to the Germans. He then became a member of the RLPP, expressing the desire to participate in the fight against the Soviet regime.

In December 1942, BOGDANOV was freed from the camp and appointed deputy team leader in Volga, and from February 1943, he simultaneously held the post of head of the academic section of the so-called Russo-German school of TODT.

I remember that in May or June 1943, BOGDANOV and the German MÜLLER, a co-worker at the Russo-German school, presided over the oath of Schutzmann.[123]

After hearing the oath, BOGDANOV congratulated the police and gave an anti-Soviet speech calling on them to unquestioningly carry out the orders of the German command in the fight against Bolshevism. In October 1943, after the TODT organization had moved to Berlin, BOGDANOV immediately switched over to serving in the inspector group created by the Germans under the Eastern Propaganda Division of the German Armed Forces, which was headed by former Major General of the Red Army BLAGOVESCHENSKY Ivan Alekseevich.

QUESTION: What exactly was this inspector group led by BLAGOVESCHENSKY?

ANSWER: The inspector group that BLAGOVESCHENSKY led exercised control over and leadership of the work of propagandists of the RLA who were conducting anti-Soviet propaganda in the camps among the POWs. The inspectors traveled out to the sites, monitoring the work of the propagandists and giving them instructions on strengthening their anti-Soviet propaganda. In addition, through the propagandists, the inspectors determined the leanings of those held in the camps and their desire to join the RLA units formed by the Germans. When they returned from the camps, the inspectors wrote reports on the work they did and gave them to BLAGOVESCHENSKY, who compiled all the data and sent it on to the Germans.

QUESTION: From what time did you serve in the inspector group?

ANSWER: In June 1941, when I was working as an educator in the TODT children's camp, I asked BOGDANOV, when I saw him, to use his influence to get me a position in the inspector group, since he was already serving in the inspector group. BOGDANOV promised to inform me of the results of the request later. BOGDANOV recommended me to TRUKHIN and BLAGOVESCHENSKY, whom he told of my former service to the Germans. In mid-June 1944, I had a meeting with TRUKHIN and BLAGOVESCHENSKY at the recommendation of BOGDANOV, who introduced me as his acquaintance from serving the Germans.

During the conversation, TRUKHIN and BLAGOVESCHENSKY asked about my service in the Red Army and promised to keep me informed about the results as well. A week later, BLAGOVESCHENSKY notified me that my request to

join the inspector group had been approved, and I soon moved to the school for RLA propagandists in Dabendorf.

QUESTION: Did you attend classes at the school for RLA propagandists in Dabendorf?

ANSWER: Although I was not officially enrolled in classes, I attended classes on my own initiative and listened to anti-Soviet lectures. In addition, I attended the meetings of RLA propagandists on three occasions when VLASOV spoke at them.

QUESTION: What was the nature of VLASOV's speeches?

ANSWER: All three of VLASOV's speeches—in August, October, and December 1944 in Dabendorf—were of a strongly anti-Soviet nature. He called on the RLA propagandists to increase anti-Soviet propaganda among POWs and those Soviet citizens driven out by the Germans. In his speeches, VLASOV A. A. paid particular attention to the desire to form the RLA as a powerful armed force that, together with the Germans, could break the Red Army and overthrow the Soviet regime. In his last speech, in December 1944, VLASOV told the RLA propagandists that as a result of his talks with the leaders of the fascist government in Germany, he had been allowed to organize the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which was to play the role of the government of Russia and provide leadership for the fight against Bolshevism.

QUESTION: What traitorous activity did you undertake during your service in the inspector group?

ANSWER: While serving in the inspector group, in August 1944, on assignment from BLAGOVESCHENSKY, I left for the camp of Soviet POWs in Greiswald (Germany), where I monitored the work of RLA propagandists and gave them instructions to increase anti-Soviet propaganda with the goal of attracting a large number of POWs to the RLA.

In addition, through the propagandists I discovered the inclinations of POWs and individuals who had expressed a desire to join the RLA. In September 1944, on returning from the POW camp, I wrote an exhaustive report of the work completed and handed it in to BLASGOVESCHENSKY.

In October-November 1944, in connection with the proposed creation of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the issue arose of the formation of RLA artillery units, and therefore on assignment from BOGDANOV I organized classes on artillery with 30 select cadet artillery specialists,

teaching them at the school for RLA propagandists in Dabendorf. They were later sent to RLA artillery units.

In November 1944, after the creation of CLPR, the inspector group was dismantled by the Germans, and I transferred into the service of the RLA headquarters.

QUESTION: What were the circumstances of the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Before the creation of CLPR, in his speeches to RLA propagandists in Dabendorf (Germany), VLASOV said that he had had meetings with HIMMLER, GOEBBELS, and RIBBENTROP and received permission from them to unite all anti-Soviet organizations in Germany and create a common center for their leadership, as well as to form the RLA, with all separate RLA units that were operating within the German Armed Forces being moved to be under his command.

After that, on 14 November, 1944, there was a committee-opening in Prague (Czechoslovakia), at which were present representatives of various anti-Soviet organizations and a large number of White émigrés. At the opening, VLASOV read aloud the Manifesto of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which was later published by the German press.

The manifesto slandered the Soviet order, the leaders of the party, and the government, and mentioned the necessity of fighting against the Soviet regime. The manifesto was signed by VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, BUNYACHENKO, and a number of other individuals joining the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. It was also affirmed by the presidium of CLPR, the chair of which was VLASOV and which included among its members: ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and others.

After the creation of CLPR, the formation of the headquarters and units of the RLA began.

QUESTION: What post did you receive in the RLA headquarters?

ANSWER: In November 1944, after the creation of the RLA headquarters, I was offered the post of inspector of the artillery section. However, at first I was predominately used to recruit POWs into the service of the RLA. The executive officer of the RLA, Major General TRUKHIN, created in the headquarters a special commission of RLA officers that traveled out to the camps with the goal of recruiting POWs into the RLA.

QUESTION: Who headed the recruiting commission that TRUKHIN created?

ANSWER: Even before the official announcement of the creation of the RLA headquarters, on the assignment of TRUKHIN two recruitment commissions were formed, one of which managed the receipt of the KAMINSKY brigade given to the RLA by the Germans and the other of which was created and headed by former Colonel of the Red Army ZVEREV. The commission led by ZVEREV traveled to Norway and recruited Soviet POWs there into the service of the RLA.

QUESTION: More specifically, what criminal activity did ZVEREV conduct?

ANSWER: I met ZVEREV in September 1944 in Dabendorf after his return from Norway, where he went, on assignment from BLAGOVESCHENSKY, as an inspector to monitor the work of RLA propagandists in the camps for military POWs. In October-November 1944, ZVEREV, on assignment from TRUKHIN, as I already testified above, personally formed a recruitment commission and traveled to Norway a second time as the head of this commission to recruit POWs into the RLA.

The commission headed by ZVEREV conducted large-scale recruitment in Norway. From the words of members of ZVEREV's commission, I learned that under his leadership a significant number of enlisted men were recruited, as well as around 500 officers, whom ZVEREV personally brought back to Dabendorf from Norway and used to form the second division of the RLA. In early December 1944, TRUKHIN created another five recruitment commissions, one of which was headed by me. Due to this, in mid-December 1944, as head of the commission, I traveled to the camps in Stargard and Greiswald on assignment from TRUKHIN.

QUESTION: Did you complete the assignment you received from TRUKHIN?

ANSWER: Yes, I did. The commission that I led recruited around 450 people in the POW camps into the service of the RLA in the period from December 1944 to January 1945, and of those, approximately 100 were recruited by me personally.

I should say that the POWs responded to the recruitment largely due to the harsh camp conditions. I had direct orders from BLAGOVESCHENSKY not to take any measures to improve the conditions of the POWs, though I wrote in the CLPR newspapers that I was supposedly doing exactly this.

After completing the assignment from TRUKHIN, in January 1945, I returned to the headquarters, where I was busy with the organizational work of the formation of the RLA artillery units until February 1945. Later, on assignment from the RLA headquarters, I left again as part of a commission to a POW camp in Nuremberg (Germany) in order to recruit some of the officers held prisoner into the service of the RLA. In the officers' camp in Nuremberg in February 1945, I recruited 20 imprisoned Red Army officers, who were later sent to serve in the already-formed units of the RLA.

QUESTION: What other criminal work did you do during the period of your service in the RLA headquarters?

ANSWER: As an inspector of the artillery section, I spent a large amount of time doing recruitment into the RLA on the orders of headquarters. I also carried out various tasks for the head of the artillery section of the RLA headquarters, BOGDANOV, and put together staff for the regimental artillery of BUNYACHENKO's first division. In addition, in March 1945, on assignment from BOGDANOV, I traveled to Münsingen, where the first division of the RLA was deployed, before moving to the front in order to establish the amount of weapons and ammunition and transfer it to the RLA officers' school.

QUESTION: Did the artillery units of the RLA take part in battles against the Red Army?

ANSWER: Yes, the artillery regiment of the first division of the RLA, commanded by BUNYACHENKO, took part in battles against the Red Army in the area around Berlin. In April 1945, due to the advance of Soviet forces to the location of the RLA headquarters (military installation Heuberg, station Tiergarten), worried about being taken by the Red Army, I—along with the remaining headquarters of the RLA second division, reserve brigade, and officers' school—began to move in the direction of the American forces, and on 9 May, 1945, due to the capitulation of German, we crossed over to the Americans.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet activity did you conduct while located in the American zone of occupation?

ANSWER: Although the RLA units were disarmed in the American zone, the committee continued to conduct anti-Soviet activity. Since at that time there was no one from the senior leadership of CLPR—the whereabouts of VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, and others were

unknown to the Americans—former head of the security division of the committee Colonel MEANDROV took on the leadership role and conducted talks with the Americans about offering CLPR participants asylum and preserving them for the continuation of the fight against the Soviet regime. At the same time, MEANDROV brought a number of new members into the committee, of which I know of former head of communications for the RLA Lt. Col. KORBUKOV, and conducted several sessions of CLPR. At the same time, the committee made a big push to agitate among RLA participants for a refusal to return to the Soviet Union. To this end, RLA participants were handed out special forms in which they were to write whether or not they wanted to return to the Homeland and to indicate the reason for their refusal to return.

QUESTION: Did you fill out such a form?

ANSWER: Yes, in the form I wrote that I did not want to return to the Soviet Union since I was not in agreement with the policies of the Soviet regime.

The transcript has been recorded accurately from my words and read by me. SHATOV

Interrogated by:
Investigator of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate for Counterintelligence "SMERSH"
Captain KOMAROV

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. L. 194–213. Original. Typed.

9. Transcripts of the interrogations of V. D. Korbukov and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 9.1. Transcript of the interrogation of V. D. Korbukov.

Interrogation transcript
of the arrested KORBUKOV Vladimir Denisovich
2 February, 1946

Korbukov V. D., born 1900 in the city of Dvinsk, Russian, citizen of the USSR, former member of the All-Union Communist Party since 1925, with a high school education, in the Red Army since 1919, former assistant head of communications for the Second Strike Force Army of the Volkhov Front, Lt. Colonel.

QUESTION: You have been arrested as a traitor to the Homeland. Tell us about the crimes you have committed.

ANSWER: When I surrendered to the Germans in August 1943, I voluntarily went into their service and from that time until the day of my arrest I conducted treasonous activity against the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: You voluntarily surrendered to the Germans?

ANSWER: Yes, I voluntarily surrendered to the Germans in October 1942. The circumstances of my surrender were the following: from April 1942, I served in the 2nd Strike Force Army of the Volkhov Front in the position of senior assistant to the head of communications for the army. In early July 1942, units of the 2nd Strike Force Army became encircled by the German forces near the city of Lyuban in Leningrad District. After a number of unsuccessful attempts to break through the encircling ring, the units of the army were broken apart by the Germans and began to escape the encirclement in small groups. As a member of the army's headquarters staff, I was at first located in the group of the commanding officer of the army, Lieutenant General Vlasov, but later, when I was executing a scouting mission, I lost contact with the group. I was left with five Red Army soldiers, and I began to try to escape the encirclement of the enemy forces independently. En route, on 11 October, 1942, approximately six kilometers from the city Staraya Russa, I saw a German and by waving the white flag, I was able to surrender to them without opposition. At the moment of my surrender, I had on my person a TT pistol, 30 rounds for it, and a hand grenade.

QUESTION: Did the Germans interrogate you?

ANSWER: Yes. After my imprisonment, I was interrogated in the offices of the German commandant of the villages of Pugovkino and Staraya Russa, and then in the headquarters of two German military units.

QUESTION: What secret information about the Red Army did you give the Germans?

ANSWER: In the process of interrogation, I informed the Germans of my full name, told them that I was a member of the

All-Union Communist Party, and also indicated that I was a Lt. Colonel of the Red Army and served in the 2nd Strike Force Army in the post of senior assistant to the head of communications. The Germans asked me questions on the organization of the intelligence services and codes used in the Red Army, but I informed them that these matters were handled by specially organized intelligence and coding sections within the headquarters, work that was top secret and of which I therefore had no knowledge. In addition, I indicated that the Red Army had special units for signals intelligence and direction finding, which were large units attached to the headquarters. In the 2nd Strike Force Army, there were no such units and therefore the headquarters of the army did not conduct any radio intelligence or direction finding.

They did not ask me any other questions. After interrogation, I was sent to a camp for military POWs: at first I was held at the camps at Dno and Porkhov. Later I was transferred to Kalvaria (Lithuanian SSR), from there to Kustrin (near Berlin), and later to Stalag 3b, which was located in Furstenberg. While I was in Stalag 3b, in August 1943, I voluntarily joined the service of the so-called Russian Liberation Army formed by the Germans for armed conflict against the Red Army with the goal of overthrowing the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: To whom did you express your desire to join the service of the RLA?

ANSWER: I found out that the formation of the Russian Liberation Army on German territory under the leadership of General Vlasov was under way soon after I arrived at Stalag 3b, since, the Germans were conducting enhanced agitation for joining this army among the POWs held in the camp. The agitation was carried out through the anti-Soviet newspaper "Dawn" [*Zarya*], and also by means of oral propaganda which was conducted by propagandists specially trained for this.

In Stalag 3b, the most energetic of the propagandists proved to be a non-commissioned officer of the RLA named Poletaev, who conducted conversations of an anti-Soviet nature with the imprisoned officers of the Red Army and called on them to join the Russian Liberation Army. I was present more than once at conversations led by Poletaev, and from the newspaper *Dawn* I learned that the RLA had as its goal the armed overthrow of the Soviet regime in the USSR. Under the influence of anti-Soviet

agitation, at the end of August 1943, I made the decision to join the service of the RLA, a decision about which I then informed Poletaev. He wrote down my biographical information and stated that I should remain in the camp until I received an appropriate assignment.

QUESTION: When did your service in the RLA begin?

ANSWER: On 10 December, 1943, I was sent from Stalag 3b in a group of five other military POWs recruited by Poletaev into the RLA to the village of Dabendorf (in the suburbs of Berlin) for training in courses for RLA propagandists.

QUESTION: What exactly were these courses for propagandists?

ANSWER: The courses for RLA propagandists in Dabendorf trained anti-Soviet personnel for propaganda work in the camps for military POWs and among the population of regions of the Soviet Union occupied by Germany. The agenda of the courses for propagandists was intended to train the students as persons loyal to fascist Germany and foster in them a fierce hostility toward the communist party and the Soviet regime. To this end, the students of the courses for propagandists listened to anti-Soviet lectures on issues of fascist Germany's government structure, national socialism, and the political structure of the USSR, and also clarification of the goals and missions of the Russian Liberation Army. At the end of the training in the courses, the Germans gave me the rank of Lt. Colonel of the RLA.

QUESTION: Did you take an oath of loyalty to Hitler?

ANSWER: Upon completion of the courses for propagandists, I, along with the other propagandists, took an oath of loyalty to Hitler's Germany and the RLA. The text of the oath was read before the graduates while in formation, after which each of us signed it. The sense of the oath was that the person swearing it gave his word to faithfully serve Hitler and, under the leadership of the German High Command, wage an armed fight against the Red Army in order to overthrow the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: What kind of work did you do upon completion of the courses for propagandists?

ANSWER: After graduation, I was listed in the reserves of officers of the RLA located in Dabendorf. Here I remained until the beginning of January 1944, when I was sent into service of the so-called inspector group, which was run by the former head of the Libava Naval Academy, Major General Blagoveschensky.

QUESTION: What was the function of the inspector group?

ANSWER: The inspector group that had been organized by the Germans exercised monitoring of the work of RLA propagandists in camps for military POWs. To this end, the inspectors of the group traveled out to the camps, where they monitored the work of the propagandists and instructed them to increase the energy of anti-Soviet activity.

QUESTION: To which camps did you personally travel for the inspection of the work of propagandists?

ANSWER: During my time in the inspector group, I traveled out to camps twice. The first time I visited Stalag 6a, which was located in Khemer (Rurskaya District), and the second time I went to Stalag 6d in Portmund.

QUESTION: Who instructed you before your departure to the POW camps?

ANSWER: The other inspectors and I received instruction before our first departure to the camps in January 1944 from the head of the courses for propagandists, former head of operations of the headquarters of the Baltics Military District Major General Trukhin, Blagoveschensky, and German propaganda division representatives Delenhausen and Strikfeld. According to the instruction we received, I was obliged to meet with the propagandists during my visit to the camp and give them orders to intensify anti-Soviet propaganda among the POWs. In conclusion, we were warned not under any circumstances to interfere in the affairs of the German administration of the camp during our visits. In June 1944, before departing for Stalag 6d, I received a similar assignment from the headquarters of the inspector group, the staff of which included—in addition to General Blagoveschensky—Colonel Koida, Major Samoilov, and Lt. Colonel Pankevich.

QUESTION: What assignment were you given?

ANSWER: While visiting the camps named above, I acted according to my instructions: I met with the RLA propagandists and had conversations with them about the essence of the propaganda they had conducted. I also indicated to them that the main emphasis should be on the strengthening of anti-Soviet propaganda.

QUESTION: While you were serving the Germans, you also conducted other hostile work in the POW camps. Talk about that.

ANSWER: My work in the camps was limited to what I have already told you.

QUESTION: Not true. You are being presented with the testimony of the arrested Bogdanov M. V.

"Karbukov monitored the work of the propagandists of the camps where Soviet POWs were used for work in coal and metal mines. During the monitoring, Karbukov discovered that the POWs were providing a very low level of productive labor. Wanting to ingratiate himself with the Germans through his service, he suggested to the camp administration that they differentiate the provisions for the POWs—that is, prisoners who did not meet the labor norms would receive a reduction in their rations, and these extra rations would be used to improve the rations for those who met their norms. Having received permission from the German command to implement this, Karbukov managed to raise the level of labor productivity for the POWs, for which he earned the recognition of the Germans."

Do you confirm this testimony?

ANSWER: I confirm that I did indeed introduce the indicated proposal to the Germans during my visit to Stalag 6a. When I arrived at Khemer, I visited the commandant of the camp, a German lieutenant colonel whose name I do not remember, and reported to him on the goals of my trip. The commandant allowed me to visit various areas of the camp at my discretion. After that, I spent time in many of the sectors of the POWs who were working in the coalmines of Rurskaya District. Here I met with propagandists, familiarized myself with how they conducted their propaganda work, and gave them corresponding instructions for improvement. Along with this, when I visited the sectors I discovered that although the prisoners spent many hours working in the mines, they were able to collect only a small amount of coal. The Germans themselves used harsh measures with the prisoners, trying to achieve better ore production, but they were unable to do so.

When I returned to the stalag and met again with the camp commandant, I suggested to him my method for raising the POWs's labor productivity, whereby the provisions the prisoners received depended on how much coal they produced. In addition, I pointed out to the commandant that the productivity level was also influenced by the fact that the head of the team was more often than not a Pole or a German. I suggested that he exchange

these for Russian POWs and said that it would definitely lead to a higher level of coal production.

QUESTION: To whom did you answer in your traitorous work?

ANSWER: On returning to Dabendorf, I immediately reported on the results of my trip to the head of the inspector group, Blagoveschensky. I also told him of my conversation with the commandant of Stalag 6a and the suggestions I had made for more effective use of the labor of the POWs. After that, I compiled a written report on my trip to the camps.

QUESTION: What did you write in your report?

ANSWER: The written reports were compiled according to a questionnaire specially prepared for that purpose. Following that questionnaire, I gave a detailed description of the camp in my report, listed the names of and gave a brief characterization of the RLA propagandists assigned to teams of prisoners, as well as noting when each of them had completed the school for propagandists. In that same report, I evaluated the work of the propagandists and at the end wrote a conclusion as to whether the propagandist was acting accordingly.

In addition to the written report, each inspector gave a briefing of his work at the general meeting of inspectors.

QUESTION: How were these meetings held?

ANSWER: The inspectors' meeting was held at the end of February 1944 and was called on the initiative of the Germans and the headquarters of the inspector group. At the meeting, the inspectors' trips to the camps for military POWs were summarized. For this, each inspector personally reiterated the work he had completed. Of the inspectors speaking at this meeting, I recall Generals Bogdanov and Sevastyanov, Colonel Zverev, Colonel Koida, and Tavantsev. I also spoke at the meeting and told those gathered the same answers to the questions I had recently put into writing, finishing my presentation with an announcement of the suggestion I had made to the commandant of Stalag 6a regarding improving the productivity of Russian POWs.

At the end of the meeting, the head of the inspector group, Blagoveschensky, spoke, along with one of the Germans, either Delenhausen or Strikfeld, I do not remember which. In his speech, Blagoveschensky demanded that the inspectors achieve improvements in the control of the work of propagandists in the

camps. The German said roughly the same thing. He added a call to the inspectors to use propaganda in the camps to improve the work of the POWs for German industry.

QUESTION: How long did you serve in the position of inspector?

ANSWER: I remained in the inspector group until the beginning of November 1944—that is, until the moment that it was dissolved, though I did no inspection work after July 1944.

QUESTION: What did you do during that period?

ANSWER: In October 1944, I was called in by the head of the courses for propagandists, Trukhin, who said that he was beginning the formation of the RLA headquarters and intended to offer me the position of head of communications in this headquarters, to which I readily agreed. Trukhin gave me a list of others marked for confirmation to the headquarters, among them: Trukhin as the executive officer, Major General Boyarsky as his deputy, Colonel Pozdnyakov as the head of the command staff, Colonel Denisov as the head of the recruitment command, General Bogdanov as head of artillery, General Sevastyanov as head of supply, and a major general with the pseudonym Iceberg as the head of battle-readiness. Later additions to the staff of the RLA headquarters included Lt. Colonel Pavlov as the head of cryptographics and Colonel Neryanin as head of operations.

QUESTION: Why were you selected for the post of head of communications for the RLA?

ANSWER: Appointments to the RLA headquarters had been agreed upon with General Vlasov in advance. He already knew me from my service in communications for the 2nd Strike Force Army. Apparently, this circumstance served as the basis for appointing me to the post of head of communications for the RLA headquarters.

QUESTION: When did the RLA headquarters set to work?

ANSWER: For all intents and purposes, the RLA headquarters set to work at the end of December 1944, after the conference that took place in Prague, where the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Europe was established.

QUESTION: Did you take part in this conference of CLPR?

ANSWER: I was personally not present at the conference in Prague, however of the officers of the RLA who were located in

Dabendorf, Tavantsev, Yaropud, Pozdnyakov, Pshenichny, Bogdanov, Sevastyanov, and a number of others did go.

QUESTION: Who was a member of CLPR?

ANSWER: The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia united within it the RLA as well as White Guard members and nationalist anti-Soviet organizations. At the head of CLPR, the Germans placed General Vlasov, as commanding officer of the RLA. In addition to Vlasov, other members of the committee included: Malyshkin, Zhilenkov, Trukhin, Boyarsky, Miandrov, and others, and also the White Guard and representatives of the anti-Soviet organizations mentioned above. At the Prague conference, the Manifesto of CLPR was read, which contained within it slander against the Soviet reality and a call for the overthrow of the Soviet order.

Several days after the conference in Prague, on approximately 20 November, 1944, I was present at a meeting in Berlin that was dedicated to the creation of CLPR. At that meeting, General Vlasov gave a report. In his report, Vlasov enumerated the tasks of CLPR and called on the participants of the meeting to offer all possible support to the German command in the armed fight against the Red Army, and also called on Soviet citizens who had been driven to work in Germany to work hard in German enterprises.

QUESTION: What were your areas of activity as head of communications for the RLA?

ANSWER: As head of communications for the RLA headquarters, I inspected the communications units that were part of larger units of the RLA. In December 1944, I was called in to see the head of the command section of the RLA headquarters, Colonel Pozdnyakov, who gave me an order from General Trukhin to accompany a group of officers to the first division of the RLA, which was forming in Münsingen. When I arrived on site, I presented myself to the executive officer of the first division, Lt. Colonel Meliushkevich and signed over people to his charge, and the next day returned on the train to Dabendorf.

QUESTION: It is known that while you were at Dabendorf as the head of communications for the RLA, you traveled out to camps where you conducted recruiting of POWs into the Russian Liberation Army. Why are you silent about this?

ANSWER: I did not conduct any such work in POW camps.

QUESTION: You are being read the testimony of Trukhin:

"In approximately November-December 1944, Karbukov, together with the assistant to the head of battle-readiness, Denisenko, traveled to a camp for POWs, where they recruited for the RLA."

Now will you talk about this?

ANSWER: I ask you to believe me that I did no recruiting in the camps for POWs. In order to recruit new participants into the RLA, Denisenko, Colonel Zverev, Colonel Ananin, and Lt. Colonel Shatov did go out to the camps, but I did not go with any of them. The most successful in this work were Zverev and Ananin, who, on assignment from the Germans, traveled twice to Norway, where they recruited a significant number of prisoners into the RLA.

QUESTION: How do you know about this?

ANSWER: From Zverev personally, who, on return from Norway to Dabendorf, told me about the work that he had done. In addition to this, all the RLA officers in Dabendorf were talking about Zverev's recruiting successes.

QUESTION: What else do you know about Zverev's criminal activity?

ANSWER: I first met Zverev in the fall of 1943, in Dabendorf, when he was a student in the courses for RLA propagandists. At that time, I almost never interacted with him, but from January 1944, during the period of time when we were both in the inspector group, we developed a close relationship.

As an inspector, Zverev traveled out to camps several times to instruct the RLA propagandists. The overall conclusion of the officers in Dabendorf was that Zverev was particularly trusted by the Germans and by Vlasov. After this, Zverev managed to obtain a working trip to Norway at a time when other inspectors were not going outside the borders of Germany.

In January 1945, Zverev was appointed commander of the second division of the RLA, and he left to go to Heuberg for the formation of the division. After a short time, in accordance with an order from Vlasov, Zverev was given the rank of Major General of the RLA.

During his service in the RLA, Zverev tried in all ways to prove his loyalty to the German command, more than once writing anti-Soviet articles for the newspapers. I remember one article where Zverev shared his experience from his work as an inspector in one of the camps.

QUESTION: What other assignments from the RLA headquarters did you carry out?

ANSWER: In February 1945, on Trukhin's orders, I was included in a headquarters group led by Colonel Tavantsev and went out to inspect the first division of the RLA at the place of their deployment in Münsingen. In Münsingen on 10 February, 1945, I was present at a parade of the first division. The parade was received by Vlasov. Before the parade began, Vlasov gave a short anti-Soviet speech to the soldiers and officers of the division.

The next day, I visited a separate communications battalion of the first division of the RLA (commanded by Major Alferyev), where I familiarized myself with the unit's battle-readiness and their supply and equipment levels. At that time, Major Alferyev reported to me on the status of the battalion from the point of view of personnel.

QUESTION: Which other units of the RLA did you visit, besides the communications battalion?

ANSWER: Other than the communications battalion of the first division, I did not visit any other units of the RLA.

QUESTION: The arrested Trukhin implicates you in inspecting other units of the RLA aside from the communications unit of the first division.

ANSWER: I admit that I received other orders from Trukhin and that in March 1945, on his orders, I left again to visit the first division as a communications officer. At that time, the division was headed to the front for military action against the Red Army. I completed Trukhin's assignment for me: I visited the first division and established that they were ready for combat action and, on returning to headquarters, reported on the results of the trip to Trukhin's deputy, Major General of the RLA Boyarsky.

While I was at the division, Vlasov was also there.

QUESTION: Tell us about your meetings with Vlasov.

ANSWER: During my service in the RLA, I met with Vlasov several times, mostly in Dabendorf, where he came for the commencement ceremonies for the graduating propagandists. Once, I visited Vlasov at his apartment in the village of Dabendorf (in the suburbs of Berlin). I told Vlasov of the circumstances of my capture, about being in camps for POWs and about joining the RLA. In the process of this conversation, some Germans arrived to see Vlasov and our conversation was cut short, but Vlasov

promised to speak with me again at another time, though he did not summon me again.

In April 1945, the situation on the front became more dangerous for the Germans, and on 17 April, 1945, in accordance with Vlasov's orders, the officers of the RLA headquarters were combined into a composite company, after which we went on foot from Heuberg in the direction of Füssen. Colonel Neryanin commanded the march at first, and he was later replaced by Colonel Denisov. During the march, I remained in the company in the post of platoon leader, although by that time I had, on Vlasov's orders, received the rank of colonel of the RLA. Moving together with the composite officers company were the pursers' unit, headquarters guards, officers' families, and the like. There were as many as 1,000 people in the column. It was led by Colonel Korovin and the deputy head of the RLA headquarters, General Boyarsky.

QUESTION: And where was Trukhin at this time?

ANSWER: Executive officer of the RLA Trukhin had left for somewhere in a vehicle on the day that the division set off from Heuberg. Later I saw Trukhin near Linz; he spent no more than twenty minutes in the column and then, taking Colonel Neryanin with him, left again. Since that time, I have not seen Trukhin. On 8 or 9 May, 1945, in the region of Kromau (Czechoslovakia), we met the American forces and crossed into the territory occupied by them.

QUESTION: When was the decision made to go to the Americans?

ANSWER: The decision to cross over to the Americans was made by the RLA headquarters before Germany's capitulation. The former assistant to the head of operations for the RLA, Colonel Mikhelson, told me that in the first days of May, Trukhin had sent Major General Iceberg to the Americans for talks. When the RLA headquarters was located in Kaplitz (Czechoslovakia), Colonel Pozdnyakov went to the Americans for a second round of talks. I heard that the talks were successful that time. Pozdnyakov brought conditions from the Americans for our surrender to them, reported them to Trukhin, and then Trukhin went to report to Vlasov on the issue.

After that, several people traveled out to the Americans: the head of the officers' school, General Miandrov; the head of battle-readiness of the RLA headquarters, General Iceberg; head of

supply for the RLA headquarters, Major General Sevastyanov; head of the command staff of the RLA headquarters, Colonel Pozdnyakov; and the head of operations, Colonel Neryanin. They returned within approximately one hour, after which the order went out to cross over to the location of the American forces. Obviously, the results of these talks were positive.

QUESTION: Where were you located once you had crossed over to the Americans?

ANSWER: After crossing into the territory occupied by the American forces, the Americans housed all the RLA officers and also all the sub-units of support staff and the officers' school in the village of Klyaden. Two days later, units of the second division that had been in the woods not far from Klyaden arrived in the region. We spent 6–7 days in Klyaden, after which all the officers of the RLA headquarters, the officers' school, and the units of the second division were relocated to the region of Friedberg. After two days, the entire personnel of the reserve brigade arrived at that location.

On 20 May, the American command ordered all the officers of the RLA and the enlisted staff of units to be taken to the village of Ganaker, in the region of Landau (Bavaria), in automobiles. We were there until the beginning of August 1945, and then the officers were separated from the enlisted personnel and moved to Regensburg.

QUESTION: The investigation is aware that while you were with the Americans, you did not cease your anti-Soviet activity. Tell us about this.

ANSWER: Due to the fact that after the RLA units crossed over to the Americans there was no news about Vlasov, Malyshkin, Zhilenkov, and Trukhin, the head of the Security Division for CLPR, Miandrov, announced that he was the high commanding officer of the Russian Liberation Army and issued an order for the creation of an RLA headquarters, which had at that time been broken up across various RLA units. The staff of the new headquarters included Colonel Neryanin as the executive officer, Major General Sevastyanov as deputy for administrative issues, Lt. Colonel Mikhelson as head of operations, Major Muzychenko as head of the propaganda division, General Iceberg as advisor to Miandrov, and Majors Legostayev and Sheiko as assistants to Miandrov.

Along with this, an intelligence sector continued to exist under the RLA headquarters, headed by Lt. Col. Grachev and his deputy, Major Chekalov.

After the creation of the headquarters, Miandrov began to actively unite the broken-up units of the RLA and, through his propaganda division, conducted broad anti-Soviet agitation directed at an ongoing fight against the Soviet Union. In particular, Miandrov, in his many speeches, stated that the fight against the Bolsheviks was not over and that the RLA would soon take action as a real military-political force in the fight against the Soviet regime once again.

In addition, Miandrov in his speeches to the officers said that he had been corresponding with one of the leaders of the White Guard organization called the National Labor Alliance of the New Generation (RLPP), one Baidalakov, who in his words worked in the Eisenhower[124] headquarters, and that through Baidalakov he hoped to achieve improvement in material conditions for the officers and enlisted men of the RLA. Miandrov called himself a member of RLPP and wore a patch on his chest from this organization.

In order to prevent the members of the RLA from returning home, the new leadership of the RLA used the propagandists to spread rumors that the agencies of the Soviet regime had implemented repressions against RLA participants who landed in their hands. I was present at all the anti-Soviet protests and meetings held in the RLA camp. During my time with the Americans, Miandrov appointed me the commissar of the composite officers' company, and later, after the reorganization of the units of the RLA, I became the commander of the construction company. In addition, I was brought into the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR) that Miandrov had reassembled, and I took part in its sessions.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances did you become a member of CLPR?

ANSWER: Soon after escaping to the Americans, while in the village of Klyaden, Miandrov, as I already said, appointed himself the high commanding officer of the RLA and formed a new headquarters. Several days later, Miandrov issued an order on the reformation of CLPR, to which new members were being added—specifically Colonel Bogdanov, who was the former executive officer for the headquarters of the second division of the RLA,

Colonel Neryanin, Colonel Novikov, Lt. Colonel Grachev, Major Chekalov, Major Tsonev, myself, and another two whose names I do not remember. In addition to those named individuals, the new CLPR included the old members of the committee: Major Muzychenko, [125] Lieutenant Grechko, and Colonel Bogun. Miandrov appointed himself as the chair of CLPR.

QUESTION: What sort of anti-Soviet work did you do as a member of CLPR?

ANSWER: I attended a meeting of the committee that was held in the first half of May 1945 in the village of Kladen (8 km from Krumau). At this meeting, plans for CLPR's anti-Soviet activity in the new situation were discussed, and Miandrov, Grechko, and Muzychenko spoke. Miandrov dedicated his speech to the issue of retaining RLA personnel and preventing the possibility of the Americans handing them over to the Soviet command. He stated the necessity of convincing the American command that the RLA was not a component part of the German army and that it was the army of a political organization (CLPR), which had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the establishment in Russia of a new order of the kind that existed in western European states.

In conclusion, Miandrov assured those gathered of the future fate of the RLA and that he would himself conduct talks with the Americans, and expressed hope that these talks would have a positive outcome.

After Miandrov spoke Musychenko, the head of the propaganda division of the RLA headquarters. He said that the committee should increase propaganda among RLA participants to refuse to return to the Soviet Union. With this goal, he proposed assigning his propagandists to every unit.The day after the committee's session, an order with Miandrov's signature was issued obliging all unit commanders to allot propagandists responsible for conducting agitation against returning to the USSR.

QUESTION: Testify to what other anti-Soviet work CLPR did under Miandrov's leadership.

ANSWER: In July 1945, Miandrov wanted to show the Americans that RLA participants were political opponents of the Soviet order, and so he suggested that each of them fill out two copies of a form in which there was the question: "Why do you not want to return to the Soviet Union?" He personally wrote up

more than 20 responses to this question of an anti-Soviet nature, which were to be used in filling out the form.

QUESTION: How did you personally answer this question?

ANSWER: I wrote in the form that I did not want to return to the Soviet Union because there was supposedly economic oppression and a lack of political rights there.

QUESTION: Where were these forms then sent?

ANSWER: At the beginning of August 1945, while in the RLA camp Ganaker near the city of Landau, I personally saw Colonel Mikhelson burn these forms on the day the RLA officers were moved to Regensburg.

QUESTION: What caused the RLA officers to be moved from the Ganaker camp to Regensburg?

ANSWER: First of all, I want to note that as early as July 1945, on the orders of the American command, RLA units had been reformed into construction companies. In total, ten such companies were assembled, with 300 people in each. I was the commander of the 9th construction company.

This reorganization of the RLA units into construction companies was carried out with the goal of retaining RLA personnel and preventing their crossing over into the zone of Soviet occupying forces. In August, however, when the Americans decided to close the Ganaker camp, the construction companies were dissolved. The RLA officers, per the decision of the American command, were transferred to the permanent camp at Regensburg, and the enlisted sent to Passau.

I remained in Regensburg for around a month, after which the Americans handed me over to a representative of the Soviet command.

The transcript has been accurately recorded from my words and read by me. Korbukov.

Interrogated by: Investigator of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate
for Counterintelligence "SMERSH" Major Mitrofanov

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. L. 169–187. Original. and T. 28. L. 158–176. Authenticated copy.

10. Transcripts of the interrogations of M.A. Meandrov and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 10.1. Transcript of the interrogation of M. A. Meandrov.

Interrogation Transcript
of the arrested Meandrov Mikhail Alekseevich
from 16 March, 1946

MEANDROV M. A., born 1894 in Moscow, Russian, non-party member, son of a priest, former staff captain of the Imperial Army, high school education, in the Red Army since 1918, former deputy to the executive officer of the 6th Army, rank of colonel.

QUESTION: On 12 February, 1946, you were forcibly transferred by the Americans to the command of the Soviet occupying forces in Germany. Why did you, a colonel of the Red Army, refuse to return to the USSR?

ANSWER: I committed a number of most serious crimes against the Soviet regime. Therefore, in May 1945, I escaped into the zone of the American forces, and I did not want to return home from there.

QUESTION: Tell about your crimes against the Homeland.

ANSWER: On 6 August 1941, I ended up encircled by German forces in the region of Uman, and I surrendered to the Germans without offering resistance. In the very first interrogation in the headquarters of the German division where I was taken after being captured, I informed the Germans of the numbers and armaments of the units of the 6th Army that had been encircled. I showed the direction these units were moving in trying to break through the encirclement and indicated the place where the commanding officer of the 6th Army, Lieutenant General MUZYCHENKO, was located.

On 9 August, 1941, I was sent to a camp for military POWs in Vinnitsa, and from there several days later I was transferred to a camp in the city of Zamość (Poland). In the Zamość camp, I was housed in a separate barracks with other Red Army colonels, including the former head of the artillery division of the 20th Mechanized Corps, Colonel LIUBIMOV; the former executive officer of the 26th Rifle Corps, Colonel SOKOLOV;and the head of chemical services of the 6th Army, Colonel NEKRASOV.

In conversations about current developments and the prospects of the war between Germany and the Soviet Union, LIUBOMOV and I, summarizing various failures of the Soviet forces at the front, slanderously insisted that the Soviet government had not prepared the country for war, was enacting a policy that did not correspond with the interests of the people, and, as a result of this, the peasants and the workers supposedly did not want to fight for the Soviet regime. Drawing a conclusion from that, I affirmed that the Soviet Union would undoubtedly suffer a defeat in the war with Germany. LIUBIMOV agreed with me.

Over the course of these anti-Soviet conversations, we became close and made the decision to go into the service of the Germans and begin to fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: How did you put your traitorous decision into practice?

ANSWER: In July 1942, LIUBIMOV and I, along with other military POWs, were taken from Zamość to the Hammelburg camp for POWs, where, from conversations with the prisoners there, we learned that there was a so-called Russian Labor People's Party (RLPP) in the camp that had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the establishment of a bourgeois order in the USSR. Since the goals of the RLPP corresponded with our own anti-Soviet convictions, LIUBIMOV and I asked about this anti-Soviet organization. I soon learned from former asst. to the head of artillery supply for the Western region Colonel PETROV, who was a member of the RLPP committee, that the organization was headed by former military jurist of the third rank MALTSEV and former head of the Libava Naval Academy Major General of shore service BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and that they were in Berlin working on the question of broadening the activities of the RLPP. At the same time, PETROV familiarized me with the agenda of the RLPP.

In conversation with LIUBIMOV, I found out that he had also learned of the agenda of RLPP and had agreed, as I had, to join that organization. At the end of July 1942, LIUBIMOV and I were accepted as members of the Russian Labor People's Party.

QUESTION: How was your membership in the anti-Soviet organization RLPP processed?

ANSWER: To join the Russian Labor People's Party, I submitted a written statement to the RLPP committee in which I

indicated that I was familiar with the agenda, fully supported it, and agreed to fight against the Soviet regime, and on that basis I asked to be admitted to the membership of the organization. In addition to this, I attached two recommendations to the statement from members of the organization PETROV and former commander of a rifle division Major General BYDYKHO. After the committee reviewed my statement, I was accepted as a member of RLPP. LIUBIMOV joined in the same way. At the end of July 1942, LIUBIMOV and I were inducted into the RLPP committee.

QUESTION: Who put forward your candidacy for the RLPP committee?

ANSWER: I was brought into the committee on the proposal of PETROV, who had come to an agreement on the question with the representative of German intelligence in the camp, Sonderführer ARNOL.

QUESTION: What kind of traitorous work did you do to recommend yourself to German intelligence?

ANSWER: The representative of German intelligence in the Hammelburg camp, ARNOL, knew well my hostile attitude toward the Soviet regime. ARNOL also knew of my active participation in the work of the so-called Military-Historical Office created by German intelligence in the Hammelburg camp to collect intelligence information about the Red Army. Over the course of June 1942, I wrote a detailed memorandum of all the secret information I had on the 6th Army, in particular on the number of personnel, the level of armaments, locations of combat action, operational plans of the command, and other issues that could interest the Germans. Over the course of preparing this memorandum, I gave individual chapters directly to ARNOL. Everything taken together, it obviously gave ARNOL reason to believe me capable of waging an active fight against the Soviet order and therefore he supported my candidacy to the RLPP committee.

QUESTION: What traitorous activity were you involved with as one of the leaders of RLPP?

ANSWER: When I became one of the leaders of the organization, I immediately took active part in attracting new members to RLPP. With this in mind, I systematically conducted anti-Soviet agitation among the prisoners held in the Hammeburg camp, assuring them of the inevitable defeat of the Red Army. I slandered the leaders of the Soviet government, using this to call

more people to join the RLPP. Along with this, as a member of the committee, I demanded that other members of the RLPP also conduct active anti-Soviet activity among the POWs with the goal of reworking them in an anti-Soviet spirit and encouraging them to join the RLPP.

As a member of the committee, I took part in the sessions of the RLPP committee meetings where new members were accepted. However, I should say that my activity in the RLPP did not last long, since soon after joining the organization, I met BESSONOV Ivan Georgievich,[126] who was also being held in the Hammelburg camp and was a former division commander. It was at his suggestion that I took part in the formation of a different anti-Soviet organization that later took the name Political Center for the Fight Against Bolshevism (PCB).

QUESTION: What were the goals of this organization?

ANSWER: The anti-Soviet organization Political Center for the Fight Against Bolshevism had as its goal fighting against the Soviet regime by dropping large armed groups of saboteurs in remote regions of the Soviet Union to prepare for an armed uprising. A headquarters was established for the implementation of these criminal schemes, with Lt. Col. BRODNIKOV appointed as its head. The function of this headquarters included working up plans and programs of combat and tactical training, conducting practical lessons with participants of the groups involved in sabotage, and preparing an uprising. The headquarters had three sections: operations, communications, and organization.

For the anti-Soviet training of the members of Political Center for the Fight in the forthcoming hostile activity in the rear territory of the Soviet Union, a so-called political department was created. BESSONOV appointed Colonel LIUBIMOV as the head of this department, and his deputy was GAIDUK. The political department consisted of two sections—the section for agitation and propaganda, divided into active agitation and propaganda and print. The print sector prepared a large number of anti-Soviet leaflets and proclamations, and also put out several issues of anti-Soviet newspapers called *The Ural Worker*, *Way of the Siberian*, and others.

Within the organization there was also a security division under the leadership of former General of the Red Army BUDYKHO.[127] Among the functions of this division was to use a

special network of agents to uncover undesirable individuals among the participants of PCB and build a case against them.

The plan for the practical activity of the PCB included the training of certain prisoners (numbering up to five thousand people) in parachute insertion, to use German aviation to drop them in the region of the rivers of the Norther Dvina, the Ob, and from the far north to the Siberian rail line, to take control of the NKVD camps located in these area, and to recruit the prisoners and exiles to the side of those starting an uprising, then to arm them and with them—using the distance of the regions from the Western and Eastern Fronts and from the population centers of the country, and likewise the absence of large military garrisons—develop activity leading to an uprising directed toward the south. In this way, we sought to broaden the regions of activity for groups fomenting uprising and draw to the uprising any anti-Soviet or unstable elements within the local population, and thus we planned to take control of the industrial centers of the Urals, separate the Western front from the Far East, and eliminate the strategic bases in the Urals critical for the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: What was the practical activity of the PCB?

ANSWER: I was a member of the leading core of the Political Center for the Fight and directly took part in the discussion of plans to conduct sabotage operations in the rear territory of the Soviet Union. In addition, I was one of the authors of the anti-Soviet brochure that received the name "The USSR and World Revolution." The contents of this brochure came down to the slanderous assertion that the Soviet government had supposedly, over the course of many long years, prepared an aggressive war against the peoples of Europe, and as a result of this, war had broken out with Germany. Members of the PCB Colonel LIUBIMOV and Lt. Colonel BRODNIKOV also took part in the compilation of the brochure. At the instruction of BESSONOV, I created a charter for the military-political fight. In this charter, the details of what actions the units should take in the woods after landing were all enumerated, along with the selection of locations, the takeover of population centers, attacks on the correctional labor camps of the NKVD, freeing the prisoners, and recruiting them into the units. Along with this, I conducted lessons in tactics with a group of officers who were participants in the PCB.

In May 1943, when BESSONOV, LIUBIMOV, BRODNIKOV, BUDYKHO, and others left for Berlin to meet with VLASOV in

order to come to an agreement on the merging of the PCB and the Russian Liberation Army, I was the head of the remaining organization. In order to support the morale of those remaining participants, I gave a report on international topics in which I slandered the policies of the party and the Soviet government.Around July 1943, the commandant of the camp, Hauptsturmführer of the Investigative Division KUNDEL, announced to me that the German command had made the decision that while the issue of the unification of the PCB and the RLA was undecided, the participants of the organization would be sent for punitive activities in the occupied territory of the USSR. A punitive unit was created from a number of the members of the PCB, of which Lieutenant of the SS FURST was appointed commander. Before the unit's departure to the east, I gave an anti-Soviet speech to the group in which I thanked the German command for the trust placed in us and called on the members of the PCB to fight with weapons in their hands against the units of the Red Army and the Soviet partisans.

QUESTION: How did you participate in the armed conflict against the Red Army?

ANSWER: The punitive unit arrived in the city of Ostrov in Leningrad District in July 1943. During the time I spent in the city of Ostrov, on the proposal of a German captain I wrote two anti-Soviet leaflets in which I called on the partisans to cease their fight against the Germans. In addition, I spoke at a rally of local citizens gathered by the Germans. In my speech, I used strong anti-Soviet language to express a number of slanderous digs against the Soviet regime and said that we were former military service members of the Red Army held in prison camps and had decided to fight together with the Germans against the Red Army and the Soviet partisans. A few days after our arrival in the city of Ostrov, fifteen people from the punitive squad escaped to the partisans. The Germans were unhappy with this and two days later sent us to the Polish town of Radom.

QUESTION: Why were you sent to Radom?

ANSWER: They did not inform us of the reasons we were sent there. We were there for two weeks with nothing to do. Because I had such a drive to fight actively against the Soviets, I wrote a letter to the camp commandant in Linzdorf, where I had been held earlier, the German KUNDEL, and asked him to provide me with some assistance on this. My letter reached

FURST, who made a big scene about it and after a few days, my group was sent to a POW camp in the city of Chenstokhov.

I did not let it rest, and I wrote another letter to KUNDEL in which I asked him to see to my problem as soon as possible. I was soon freed from the camp and transferred to the so-called free camp located in Breslavl. There I met with KUNDEL, who had by that time already become camp commandant.

QUESTION: What was this camp exactly?

ANSWER: In this camp were gathered Soviet military POWs, mainly former engineers and technicians who had expressed their willingness to work in German industry. For a time, there was a sabotage group at the camp of about 25 people who mainly studied radio gear. The head of the group was the White émigré and Lt. Colonel in the White Army SEMYONOV, and his deputy was the White émigré KOCHUBEI. At the beginning of December, this group departed from the camp for somewhere and I did not hear any more about them.

QUESTION: Were you a participant in this sabotage group?

ANSWER: No, I did not take part in the sabotage group.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet work did you do in this camp?

ANSWER: Immediately upon arrival in the camp, KUNDEL appointed me to the post of assistant to the commandant of the camp, and KUNDEL also periodically tasked me with conducting anti-Soviet conversations among the work teams of prisoners located in that camp. During the period I was at that camp, I had several conversations in which I slandered the Soviet regime and its government. In this same camp I met with the librarian POZE, a former junior lieutenant in the Red Army reserves who was a member of the anti-Soviet White émigré organization National Labor Union of the New Generation. In conversations with me, POZE told me that RLPP had as its main goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the establishment of a bourgeois democratic order in Russia. POZE said that RLPP had been created several years ago in Yugoslavia and was one of the more popular anti-Soviet organizations among White émigrés abroad. Its groups and cells existed in all the countries of Europe and America. At that time, POZE familiarized me with the brochure of RLPP called "Schematic of the National-Labor Order" and gave me several leaflets and brochures.

QUESTION: You are being presented with the brochure "Schematic of the National-Labor Order." Is this the document you are referring to?

ANSWER: Yes, the brochure being presented to me, "Schematic of the National-Labor Order," is the same document that POZE showed me. This brochure became the agenda of RLPP and aimed to fight against the Soviet regime. When I had become familiar with it, I decided to join RLPP, a decision about which I informed POZE. POZE said that my decision to become a member of the organization would be reported to the leader of RLPP, BAIDALAKOV. In one of our last conversations, POZE informed me that RLPP had some of its members in the Russian Liberation Army. In particular, he named General TRUKHIN, who was a member of the executive bureau of RLPP.

I soon managed, through camp commandant KUNDEL, to free several people serving in the punitive unit in the prison camp in Chenstokhov with whom I had traveled to the city of Ostrov and bring them to the camp near Breslavl. Among those brought over were Major SKRIPKO, Sr. Lt. POVALYAEV, Major "PANAS," and soldier "LENSKY" whose real names I do not remember. I began to pitch the RLPP agenda to them, as a result of which I was able to recruit SKRIPKO and POVALYAEV into the organization.

In December 1943, I took part in a meeting of the members of RLPP that took place in Breslavl in the apartment of White émigré KHORVAT, who was a member of the organization. There were around fifteen people at this meeting, including POZE and the two that I had recruited, SKRIPKO and POVALYAEV.

BRUNST, who had come to Breslavl as a member of the executive bureau of RLPP, gave a report about RLPP's missions in that period. He gave a brief characterization of the current situation and the missions of the organization, and called on the members of RLPP to broadly conduct propaganda among the Russian population that lived in Breslavl and the Soviet POWs.

QUESTION: What other assignments from RLPP did you carry out?

ANSWER: In December 1943, POZE informed me of the opinion of the leadership of RLPP that I, as a military specialist, should join the RLA in order to take part in the armed fight against the Soviet regime. In connection with this, in December 1943, I wrote a statement to VLASOV requesting that he enlist me

in the service of the Russian Liberation Army. I gave this statement to POZE, who was often in Berlin, and asked him to pass it to TRUKHIN. At the same time, I submitted a statement to the camp commandant KUNDEL to free me from the camp and transfer me into the service of the RLA. In the first half of January 1944, KUNDEL announced to me that my request had been approved and I had been accepted into the RLA. A few days later, I left for Dabendorf, where the RLA school for propagandists was located.

QUESTION: What work were you assigned in the RLA?

ANSWER: In Dabendorf I was received by General TRUKHIN, who, after briefly familiarizing himself with my biography and service in the Red Army, advised me to attend a number of anti-Soviet lectures given in the school for propagandists. After a few days, I was given the rank of colonel in the RLA and was appointed inspector for propaganda among the Soviet POWs.

QUESTION: According to your testimony, you knew even before your arrival in Dabendorf that TRUKHIN was one of the leaders of RLPP. Did you establish contact with him through this organization?

ANSWER: In one of the first meetings, TRUKHIN informed me that he was in fact a member of the executive bureau of RLPP and headed a cell of the organization that operated within the RLA. TRUKHIN informed me that in the group that he led, participants of RLPP were teachers in the school for propagandists—ZAITSEV, SHTEFANOV, and the head of the front office of the school, Captain of Administrative Service STRELNIKOV. TRUKHIN also told me that in the future it would be necessary to spread the ideas of RLPP among RLA officers and try to attract new RLPP members. TRUKHIN advised me to meet with the leader of the organization, BAIDALAKOV, and gave me his Berlin address.

In addition, a few days later, TRUKHIN, as a member of the executive bureau of RLPP, received from me a written oath, which is to say he processed my induction as a member of RLPP.

QUESTION: And did you meet with BAIDALAKOV?

ANSWER: Yes, in mid-February 1944, POZE came to Dabendorf and informed me of the organization's work in Breslavl. That evening, POZE and I went to BAIDALAKOV's apartment. At that meeting, BAIDALAKOV asked about my

biography and service in the Red Army. BAIDALAKOV then informed me that RLPP was actively conducting anti-Soviet work and its cells existed in all countries in Europe and America, but due to the war, communications with several of them had been lost. In the future, I was to meet with BAIDALAKOV fairly often.

QUESTION: What was the nature of these meetings?

ANSWER: At the meetings, BAIDALAKOV talked a lot about the history of the National-Labor Union for the New Generation and emphasized the need to activate the propaganda of RLPP's ideas, with particular emphasis on oral propaganda.

QUESTION: What sort of emphasis did BAIDALAKOV place on using terrorist methods to fight the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: BAIDALAKOV never spoke about this directly, though in one conversation, speaking about previous activity, he did mention that RLPP was too soft in its approach to political opponents and expressed the intention to be more cruel in the future.

QUESTION: The investigation is aware that the organization RLPP used terror as one of its main methods of fighting against the Soviet regime. Talk about this.

ANSWER: I am familiar with the RLPP agenda, but as far as I remember, there was no indication that terrorist methods were used in the fight against the Soviet regime. It is possible that the organization did use terror as a method to fight the Soviet regime, but in any case, I am not aware of it.

QUESTION: What specifically did you do as a member of RLPP while in the service of the RLA?

ANSWER: Primarily, I was searching for like-minded people. To do this, I had conversations with the officer staff in which I told them of the goals and missions of RLPP. As a result of these conversations, I was able to recruit to my side Colonels KOIDA and ANANIN. KOIDA was the assistant to the head of the inspectorate of propagandists of the RLA, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and ANANIN was an inspector. They both fully shared the ideas of RLPP, but they were never officially processed as members of the organization.

On orders from BAIDALAKOV, I had one conversation with a group of émigré youth—members of RLPP—on the upbringing of the intelligentsia in the Soviet Union.

In April 1944, BAIDALAKOV, VERGUN, BRUNST, and other active participants of RLPP were arrested by the Germans

on suspicion of communication with the English and Americans. I soon received an order from BAIDALAKOV from prison, to direct the work of RLPP to give every possible assistance to the development of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia that had been created by the Germans at that time. I informed TRUKHIN and MAMUKOV, as members of the executive bureau of RLPP, of BAIDALAKOV's instruction.

Trying to free BAIDALAKOV, I went to the investigator working on his case, met with the prosecutor, and more than once asked VLASOV to talk with the German command about freeing those arrested from custody.

QUESTION: What did VLASOV have to do with the RLPP organization?

ANSWER: As far as I know, VLASOV, though he was not a member of RLPP, fully shared the ideas of this organization and more than once met with BAIDALAKOV. I do not know which of the Germans VLASOV talked to about freeing BAIDALAKOV, but I know that it was at his request that BAIDALAKOV and other leaders of RLPP were freed from custody and later took part in the work of CLPR.

QUESTION: We will return to your later anti-Soviet connections with White Guard members, but now testify as to what traitorous work you did from the moment you joined the RLA.

ANSWER: As I already testified earlier, after joining the RLA, the Germans appointed me as an inspector for propaganda among Soviet POWs. At first, I familiarized myself with the reports of the propagandists coming from trips to POW camps. I wrote two anti-Soviet slanderous articles that were later published in the *Bulletin of the RLA Propagandist*.

Several days after arriving in Dabendorf, I met with VLASOV, whom I knew from my service in the Red Army. VLASOV very briefly asked me about BESSONOV and his anti-Soviet activity, and then suggested that I come to see him in Dabendorf in a few days.

After about ten days, TRUKHIN informed me that VLASOV wanted to see me. For this reason, I went to see VLASOV at his apartment.

QUESTION: What questions did you discuss with VLASOV?

ANSWER: As I understood from conversation with VLASOV, he intended to establish personal contact with me. In

conversation, VLASOV informed me about the condition of the RLA, pointing out that the Germans were still not allowing a broader rollout of the formation of the RLA. He did not touch on other issues in our conversation.

Until April 1944, I gave a series of lectures on tactics in the school for propagandists, and I also edited military articles in the RLA newspapers *Volunteer* and *Dawn*.

In April 1944, on the instruction of the Germans, TRUKHIN appointed me editor of the *RLA Officers' Bulletin* and *Propagandist of the Eastern Front*. In order to collect information for the journal, I went to Lötzen at the beginning of May.

QUESTION: Why Lötzen specifically? What German institutions were located there that were connected with the RLA's anti-Soviet work?

ANSWER: At that time the headquarters of the High Command of the German army was located in the region of Lötzen and I went there with the agreement of the battalion commander for propaganda in Dabendorf, German Captain STRIKFELD, in order to receive intelligence materials on the status of propaganda in the Red Army and other information that interested me from the intelligence sector of the headquarters.

In addition, there was a camp for military POWs under the intel sector in Lötzen in which they held Soviet POWs who were of interest to the German command headquarters. I was given the right to visit the camp and interrogate the POWs. I used the material that I collected in my anti-Soviet articles published in the *Officers' Bulletin* that I edited and the journal *Propagandist of the Eastern Front*.

QUESTION: You are being shown issue number six of the journal *Propagandist of the Eastern Front* from September 1944. Is this the journal you were speaking of?

ANSWER: Yes, this is one of the issues that was published while I was editor.

QUESTION: Who wrote the articles in this journal?

ANSWER: In general, I wrote the anti-Soviet articles with the help of a history professor from one of the Leningrad institutes of higher education, ETERLEY, who was recruited by me in the Lötzen camp.

QUESTION: How long did you serve as the editor of the *Officers' Bulletin of the RLA* and *Propagandist of the Eastern Front?*

ANSWER: During the time I worked there, I put out six issues of the *Officers' Bulletin of the RLA* and six issues of *Propagandist of the Eastern Front*. In the second half of October 1944, one of VLASOV's closest assistants, ZHILENKOV, invited me to Dabendorf to see VLASOV, who informed me that the German government had permitted him to form a Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia for the leadership of anti-Soviet activity and proposed that I head up the organizational commission preparing for assembling the committee.

The appointed members of this committee included White émigré ZHEREBKOV, Major KALUGIN, who was head of the Security Division of the RLA, and Major KHITROVO, the commander of VLASOV's guard battalion. The task of this commission included the organization of preparations for the ceremonial inauguration of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the selection of the place it would be held, and preparation of invitations. Since VLASOV had already agreed with the Germans that the opening of the committee would take place in Prague, the commission that I headed traveled out to the site in October 1944. Before leaving for Prague, I was invited to VLASOV's office, where I signed the Manifesto of CLPR that VLASOV was to announce at the meeting for the opening of the committee. On 14 November 1944, the inaugural meeting for the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia took place. The meeting was opened by White émigré Professor RUDNEV. as the eldest member of the committee, who put forward VLASOV's name for chair of the committee.

VLASOV read the Manifesto of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. In this manifesto, the conditions in the Soviet Union were presented in an anti-Soviet spirit. There was slander against the leaders of the Soviet government, who supposedly led their country into war through their incorrect policies and now the people of Russia were spilling their blood for the imperialists of England and the USA. It showed the necessity of fighting against Bolshevism and informed about the creation for this purpose of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. In the manifesto, it was declared that the committee was created for the liberation of the peoples of Russia from the Bolshevik system and for the creation of a Russian government without Bolsheviks.

After the confirmation of the manifesto, the presidium of the committee was elected, including VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and White émigrés RUDNEV and BALABIN. VLASOV was elected chair of the committee and MALYSHKIN secretary.

QUESTION: Testify as to the structure of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

ANSWER: VLASOV was appointed to the position of Chair of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. The committee was comprised of three administrations—Propaganda, Civil Affairs, and Organizational. The Civil Affairs Administration, with former Major General of the Red Army ZAKUTNY as its head, managed the organization of anti-Soviet work among the workers who had been forcibly driven from the occupied regions of the Soviet Union by the Germans, and the registration of the Russian population located on the territory of Germany.

The Organizational Administration had the task of uniting the national committees created by the Germans on the territory of Germany, organizing the Security Division, and creating the agenda for the committee. The head of this administration was former brigade commander of the Red Army MALYSHKIN.

The Propaganda Administration consisted of six divisions: propaganda among POWs, among the civilian population of the Red Army, radio, print, and art propaganda. For the organization of propaganda in the Red Army, authorized committees were formed and sent to the headquarters at the German front. Colonel of the RLA and former military engineer of the first rank of the Red Army YAROPUT went out to the region of Hungary, Lt. Col. RIL was sent to the Central group of German forces, and Lt. Col. MILISHKEVICH went out to Eastern Prussia. A special provision had been worked out for these propagandists and propaganda just behind the front lines as well as those operating within the Red Army. YAROPUT, RIL, and MILISHKEVICH took whole groups of propagandists with them, intending to organize the publication of anti-Soviet newspapers on site.

At the end of January 1945, they created under the Propaganda Administration a division for propaganda among the Anglo-American troops. The tasks of this division included propaganda hostile to the USSR among the military service members of the English and American armies. The necessity for

the creation of this division arose from the successful advances of the Red Army. The command of the RLA counted on crossing over to the side of the Anglo-American forces in the event of a German defeat, with the hope of continuing the armed conflict against the Soviet Union if there was a confrontation between the USSR and England and America.

QUESTION: Were you a member of CLPR?

ANSWER: Yes, I was a member of the committee.

QUESTION: What did you do as a committee member?

ANSWER: I was appointed deputy to the head of the Propaganda Administration of CLPR. At the same time, I was the head of the Propaganda Division of the RLA headquarters. This division answered directly to the executive officer of the RLA, General TRUKHIN. In carrying out this work, I wrote the position paper "On the Propagandists of the RLA," which detailed how to structure propaganda work in the units of the RLA. As the deputy to the head of the Propaganda Administration, I led the division for propaganda among POWs and in the units of the Red Army. The division for propaganda within the units of the Red Army produced several anti-Soviet leaflets intended to be distributed in the area of the Soviet forces, among them a printed copy of the Manifesto of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. We had intended to use loudspeakers at the front lines, but due to the rapid advance of the Red Army to the west, this activity was never conducted. In addition to this, I carried out special assignments from VLASOV.

QUESTION: What were these assignments from VLASOV?

ANSWER: Soon after the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, congratulatory telegrams and invitations for the members of the committee to come and speak about the activity of CLPR addressed to VLASOV began arriving from various White émigré organizations in Europe. In particular, a telegram was received from the city of Graz (Austria) from a White émigré initiative group that asked to be sent a representative of the committee. On VLASOV's orders, at the end of December 1944, I left for Graz with my assistant, YEGOROV, and the head of the financial department, ANDREEV.

On arriving in Graz, I gave a report on the activity of CLPR at a meeting of White émigrés and Soviet citizens driven from the occupied territories of the USSR by the Germans, calling on those gathered to unite with the committee to fight against the Soviet

regime. On the way back, passing through Vienna, I went to see the committee representative for Austria, General of the White Army KREITER, and at his request gave a report of the tasks of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.At the beginning of January 1945, VLASOV called me in to see him and proposed that I go to the POW camp in Nuremberg, where they were holding a group of imprisoned Soviet generals, and try to recruit some of them into the RLA.

QUESTION: How did you carry out the assignment?

ANSWER: On arrival at the Nuremberg camp, I called in Generals LUKIN, PONEDELIN, KIRILLOV, YEGOROV, and POTAPOV. In conversation with LUKIN and PONEDELIN, I told them briefly of the tasks that the committee had set for itself and offered them the chance to join the RLA. LUKIN and PONEDELIN refused my offer.

KIRILLOV, YEGOROV, and POTAPOV refused even to speak on this topic.

In this camp, I met with propagandist of the RLA Captain ZOLOTNITSKY, who reported to me that as a result of his work, Colonel SKUGAREVSKY[128] and two lieutenants whose names I do not know had agreed to join the service of the RLA. I called SKUGAREVSKY in and spoke with him personally, at which time he confirmed for me his desire to join the service of the RLA.

When I returned to Berlin, I reported to VLASOV on the results of my trip. A few days later, VLASOV tasked me with traveling to Prague to the meeting of the so-called Czech Anti-Communist League. Upon arrival in Prague, I gave a welcoming speech in the name of the committee and called for the unification of all anti-Soviet organizations in the fight against Bolshevism. There in Prague, at the suggestion of the leader of the White émigrés—it seems his name was ANISIMOV—I gave a report to the active members of the White émigré community on the activity of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. The White émigrés asked me several questions about upcoming RLA activity in connection with the victorious advance of the Red Army. I answered that the committee, in the event of a German defeat, would cross over to the side of the Anglo-American forces, and if there was a confrontation of England and the USA with the Soviet Union, as we predicted, we would act as a "third force" against the USSR.

At the beginning of February 1945, the committee evacuated Berlin for Karlsbad under orders from the Germans, and a few days later the RLA headquarters left for Heuberg in the city of Münsingen. Among the officers of the division, I gave a report on the conditions at the front lines and on our tasks, calling on them to remain loyal to the leadership of the RLA. I did not have time to implement other propaganda measures, since VLASOV soon came to Münsingen and appointed me as the head of the RLA officers' school. At that time, VLASOV announced to me that the Germans had given me the rank of Major General of the RLA.

QUESTION: What exactly was this officers' school?

ANSWER: The school trained officers for the Russian Liberation Army from among the recruited Soviet POWs. The number of students reached as many as 1,000 people. In the school, there were groups for administrative workers, company commanders and battalion commanders, and platoon leaders, a group of non-commissioned officers, and a group of quartermasters. The length of training for the non-commissioned officers was three months, and for the rest two months.

At the end of March, two groups arrived at the school, one of White Guard cadet corps[129] previously located in Yugoslavia, and the second of the Russian Security corps made up of White Army officers.

QUESTION: How did the RLA units participate in armed conflict against the Red Army?

ANSWER: In mid-March 1945, the Germans demanded that the first division of the RLA be sent to the front, where they took part in battles against Soviet forces to the southeast of Berlin. In addition, a unit was organized in Berlin under the leadership of the White émigré Colonel SAKHAROV that participated in battles against the Red Army on the Oder River. VLASOV, when he came to Münsingen, had only the best things to say about this unit. At the same time, VLASOV informed us that a brigade was bring formed in Berlin from Russian workers and he had appointed Colonel ANTONOV as the commander of that unit.

As far as I know, even before the first division was sent to the front, some of its personnel were selected for an anti-tank unit and sent to one of the German units to fight against the Soviet forces.

QUESTION: Did you personally take part in battles against the Red Army?

ANSWER: I did not have to participate in battles against the Soviet forces, since hitherto I was the head of the officers' school and only trained personnel for units of the RLA. On 18 April, 1945, due to the approach of the American army toward Münsingen, the school ceased training and set off on a foot march to the southeast in the direction of the Swiss border, and then we turned to the east, to Czechoslovakia, where on 9 May, 1945, in the region of the city of Budevitz, we crossed over to the side of the American forces.

QUESTION: After escaping into the American zone, did you cease your anti-Soviet activity?

ANSWER: I must admit that, while we were in captivity under the Americans, I continued to conduct anti-Soviet work until the moment I was transferred to the Soviet command.

QUESTION: How, specifically, was your traitorous activity expressed during this period?

ANSWER: After crossing over to the Americans, not having any information about the location of VLASOV, TRUKHIN, or other leaders of CLPR, I decided to take it upon myself to lead the anti-Soviet activity. With this in mind, I proclaimed myself the commanding officer of all the RLA units that had crossed into the American zone of occupation and then took on the leadership of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

Due to the fact that there were only five people of the previous membership of CLPR with the Americans at that time—myself, MUZYCHENKO, GRECHKO, BOGUN, and a fifth whose name I do not remember—I decided to add to the membership.

I spoke about this with Colonels NYRYANIN and BOGDANOV, Lt. Col. GOLOVINKIN, Col. KORBUKOV, Major TSONEEV, Major KHAZBABOV, who was the head of the Propaganda Division of the RLA Headquarters, Col. KISELEV, who was the head of the officers' school, White émigré NOVIKOV, Lt. Col. KOROVIN, who was assistant to the head of operations for the RLA Headquarters, and Lt. Col. MIKHELSON, who was the assistant head of operations, and after some discussion, when each of them had agreed that we should continue anti-Soviet activity, I confirmed them as members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

At the same time, as commanding officer of the units of the RLA, I wrote an order on the appointment of my deputies, Major

General SEVASTYANOV and Colonel NYRYANIN, the latter of whom was also appointed as executive officer of the RLA.

In order to show the RLA participants that the fight against the Soviet regime would continue, I wrote two orders on new ranks for the officers up to and including the majors.

I also published an order on the graduation of cadets from the officers' school and awarding them officer ranks. I considered that as a result of these activities, I would be able to preserve the units of the RLA as a fighting entity to continue the fight against the Soviet regime. I often gathered the senior command staff together and gave them assignments to conduct anti-Soviet work among the soldiers in order to ensure that they would refuse to return to the Homeland.

At the same time, two letters were sent to the American command in the name of the committee with my signature, written under my leadership by MUZYCHENKO, in which we tried to get the Americans to allow us the opportunity to continue anti-Soviet work, and so we tried to prove that during the war we were not, as supposed, accessories to the Germans and that we fought against the Soviet regime not on the assignment of the Germans but due to our own political convictions.

In these letters, along with slander against the Soviet government, we gave a description of the RLA, trying to convince the Americans that the RLA was not a principal element of the German army and insisted that we not be returned to the USSR.

Having become the leader of CLPR, I spoke more than once at gatherings and meetings of RLA participants, giving anti-Soviet speeches and trying to convince those listening that the RLA participants would receive asylum, since the committee was taking measures against the forcible handover of us to the Soviet command.

In addition to this, I continued work as a member of the anti-Soviet organization National-Labor Union of the New Generation. I established contact with the leader of RLPP, BAIDALAKOV, and MAMUKOV, and on their orders created a RLPP cell.

QUESTION: How did you manage to establish contact with the leader of RLPP?

ANSWER: When I was in the camp at Landau, in August 1945, a member of the executive bureau of RLPP, MAMUKOV, came to see me, and he informed me of the ongoing activity of the organization. In conversation with MAMUKOV, I asked about the

prospects of the organization in the future. MAMUKOV told me that RLPP was presently developing communications between the leadership and lower-level members of the organization and was taking measures to establish contact with the American command, with the goal of receiving permission to be freed to continue the activity of RLPP in the American zone of occupation. At the same time, MAMUKOV informed me that the leaders of RLPP were currently taking another look at their agenda and making plans for future activity against the Soviet Union, counting on the fact that in the near future there would be a contradiction between the USSR and England and America that would, in their opinion, lead to military conflict.

At the end of the conversation, MAMUKOV informed me that BAIDALAKOV, who was also located in the American zone in the region of the city of Kassel in one of the camps of the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration, was taking measures to free all RLA participants from American imprisonment and offer them political asylum as ideological combatants against the Soviet regime.

Several days before meeting with MAMUKOV, I received a letter from BAIDALAKOV delivered by RLPP member DERIUGIN, in which he reported that he was working on piecing together the organization and reworking the agenda. At the end of the letter, he promised to systematically inform me of RLPP's further anti-Soviet activity. DERIUGIN told me that the leadership of RLPP, in particular BAIDALAKOV, was interceding with the American command to free the participants of the RLA from captivity. To this end, DERIUGIN offered to fill out a form for each officer and soldier of the RLA that would indicate brief biographical information and a reason for not wishing to return to the homeland.

I gave the order to unit commanders to poll all the personnel, having prepared in advance typical answers to the question of why they did not wish to return to the Soviet Union. The content of these answers amounted to the respondents supposedly not agreeing with the policies of the Soviet government of having suffered in the past at the hands of the agencies of the Soviet regime.

In the second half of August 1945, myself, SEVASTYANOV, ARTSEVO, and Generals of the White Army BORODIN, BELOGORTSEV, and ANGELEEV were separated from the rest of

the prisoners and taken to a POW camp in the region of the city of Poking, where officers and soldiers of the SS were held, along with leading members of the fascist party.

During the time I was held in this camp, I could not do any anti-Soviet work. In October, we were all transferred to a POW camp in the city of Platting, from whence we were moved five days later to the city of Lantzgut and placed in a POW camp. SEVASTYANOV, ARTSEVO, and I were held in that camp until February 1946—that is, until our transfer to the Soviet command.

QUESTION: While you were in the camp at Lantzgut, did you continue any anti-Soviet activity?

ANSWER: Yes, during the time I was in the camp at Lantzgut, I continued my anti-Soviet activity by writing two addresses to the RLA soldiers and officers held in other camps. In these addresses, I called on the RLA officers not to run off and leave the soldiers. I also declared that the most dangerous period for RLA participants had passed, since the Soviet representatives had already visited the camps. The first address I passed on through a priest of the Russian church in the Lantzgut camp who traveled to other camps, and the second through Colonel KROMIADI, who came to see me with the leader of the clergy on the territory of Germany, Archimandrite Nikolai.[130]

QUESTION: Why did representatives of the clergy come to see you?

ANSWER: In conversation with myself, SEVASTYANOV, and ATSEZO, Archimandrite Nikolai informed us that he had decided to take on the leadership of the Orthodox Church abroad and had supposedly already received authority for that from the Pope. Then Archimandrite Nikolai told us that in the near future he intended to get an offer for political asylum for the members of the RLA from the American command, along with a preclusion of forced repatriation to the Soviet Union. On this question he supposedly had a conversation with the commanding officer of the 3rd American Army, who supposedly promised him not to conduct forcible repatriation of the participants of the RLA for two months, but advised presenting the issue to the Pope during that time so that he could use his diplomatic apparatus to make arrangements with the American government.

At the end of the conversation, Archimandrite Nikolai suggested that SEVASTYANOV, ARTSEZO, and I write him a request for political refuge in Europe or America and ask him to

petition the Pope, who supposedly, according to Archimandrite Nikolai, had already in principle given his approval to raise the issue of not returning RLA participants to the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a document addressed to the Archimandrite Ratyarsky, Metropolitan Nikolai. Who wrote this document?

ANSWER: The document presented to me is ARTSEZO's original letter to Metropolitan Nikolai. ARTSEZO wrote this letter in my presence, when I was busy doing the same, writing a similar letter to the Metropolitan. Along with ARTSEZO and SEVASTYANOV, I also wrote such a statement to the American command, in which I asked them not to send us to the Soviet Union. I want to say that I did not particularly believe in all this intervention on our behalf and therefore I had prepared poison to commit suicide in the event of forcible repatriation to the Soviet command. When I was taken into custody by the American command and I found out that I was being sent to the Soviet zone of occupation, I made an attempt to commit suicide, knowing that I would be severely punished for the serious crimes I had committed against the Homeland.

The transcript has been accurately recorded from my words and read by me.

Meandrov.

Interrogated by: Deputy Section Head of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate of "SMERSH"

Lt. Colonel Morozov

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 3. L. 52–76. Original. and T. 20. L. 162–186. Authenticated copy.

11. Transcripts of the interrogations of V. F. Malyshkin and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 11.1. Transcript of the interrogation of V. F. Malyshkin.

Interrogation transcript
of the arrested Malyshkin Vasily Fyodorovich from 2 April, 1946

MALYSHKIN V. F., born 1896 in Stalinskaya District, Russian, citizen of the USSR, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1919, former Executive Officer of the 19th Army, Major General.

QUESTION: On 25 March, 1946, you were handed over by the Americans to the Soviet regime with handcuffs on. How did you end up in handcuffs?

ANSWER: I must admit that I was handed over to the Soviet command by the Americans against my wishes. While I was located in the zone of the American forces from May 1945, I made every effort to remain in the territory of Germany occupied by the Americans, asked for the intercession of the U.S. government, and asked that I not be returned to the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: Why did you not want to return to the USSR?

ANSWER: I thought that if I could remain with the Americans, I could continue the fight that I had begun against the Soviet government. Over the course of a number of years, I was hostile to the Soviet regime, believing that the Soviet government was implementing policies against the interests of the people, as a result of which the peasants and workers of the Soviet Union had been stripped of all rights and lived in poverty. Due to this, I fought to overthrow the Soviet regime in the USSR, replacing it with a bourgeois system of government. In the beginning, I also harbored hope that the Germans would be able to destroy the Soviet government, and after Germany's defeat, I hoped that a conflict would arise between England, the USA, and the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: When did you establish criminal communication with the Germans?

ANSWER: On 24 October, 1941, while I was Executive Officer of the 19th Army of the Western Front, I surrendered to the

Germans in the region of the city of Vyazma, and in the POW camp I informed the German officer interrogating me of the numbers of the 19th Army, its personnel by division, and the area of operations for the army, and later, after some time had passed, I enrolled in courses for fascist propagandists located in Wuhlheide, near Berlin.

QUESTION: Did the Germans really only interrogate you about the personnel and numbers of the 19th Army?

ANSWER: In January 1943, I was accompanied by a German officer to the city of Lötzen (Eastern Prussia), where the headquarters of the German High Command was located at that time. In Lötzen, an advisor to the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs, HILGER, spoke with me. In answer to HILGER's questions, I reported information that I made up about how the Soviet Union had supposedly prepared for an attack on Germany in 1940–41. At that time, I also told HILGER my opinion of the necessity of forming a Russian government and Russian army from the POWs in order to successfully fight against the Soviet government and the army.

QUESTION: You are being read a Russian translation of a document taken in Germany entitled "Interrogation of Major General V. F. Malyshkin," dated January 1943. Is your testimony correctly represented here?

ANSWER: Yes, it is correct. This is the information that I reported to the Germans in conversation with HILGER.

QUESTION: Now speak about your anti-Soviet activity after transferring to the courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide.

ANSWER: The courses for fascist propagandists in Wuhlheide, when I enrolled in April 1942, were under the auspices of the Propaganda Division of the German Armed Forces (OKW) and trained propagandists to conduct anti-Soviet work in camps for military POWs and for assembling so-called propaganda companies within the German army.

Over the course of two months, I regularly attended classes that were conducted by the German von DER ROPP, who spoke Russian. In these classes, von DER ROPP gave lectures on Germany's governmental structure, the fascist party, race theory, agriculture, and industry, attempting to convince the attendees of the advantages of the fascist order over democratic systems of rule, and slandered the Soviet Union. Each attendee took notes from von DER ROPP's lectures and then spoke at examination

classes that were arranged, repeating what had been put forth in the German propaganda.

Along with this, they took us on excursions and showed us the agriculture of the German peasant kulaks and certain industrial enterprises, after which we wrote about our impressions of the excursions and praised the German practices.

QUESTION: What assignments from the Germans did you carry out while at Wuhlheide?

ANSWER: I already testified that in Wuhlheide, I was only an attendee of the school for propagandists.

QUESTION: Not true. You are being read the testimony of former German propagandist KHARCHEV A. M.:

" … Of the instructor staff of the school for propagandists in Wuhlheide, I know Malyshkin, Vasily Fyodorovich, former brigade commander of the Red Army, one of the closest assistants of the traitor VLASOV."

Can you confirm this testimony?

ANSWER: I confirm it. In July 1942, when I had finished the entire course of lectures, von DER ROPP appointed me as his assistant in leading the classes of one academic group, and after that I myself began to lead classes with propagandists, giving lectures on the topics: fascist organizations of Germany, the land question in Germany, and a number of others. I also went along as assistant to the guide on excursions and looked after the class schedule and attendance.

In December 1942, I established contact with the commanding officer of the 2nd Strike Force Army, VLASOV, who had come over to the side of the Germany, and I began more active forms of fighting against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Under what circumstances did you establish contact with VLASOV?

ANSWER: In December 1942, I had a meeting in Wuhlheide with a representative of the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, Captain STRIKFELD. In our conversation, STRIKFELD asked about my fate in the Red Army, my acquaintance with Vlasov, and my feelings about the Soviet regime. I told STRIKFELD about what positions I had held in the Red Army, indicated that I had heard of VLASOV but that I had not met with him earlier, and stated my hostile attitude to the Soviet regime. STRIKFELD warned me that in a short time I would be moved from Wuhlheide. In mid-December 1942, I was

in fact moved to Berlin, Victoria St., house number 10, where the Propaganda Division for the Armed Forces of Germany was located.

My meeting with VLASOV took place in Berlin, as he was at that time already serving in the Propaganda Division. VLASOV told me directly that on orders from the Germans I was undertaking the organization of the so-called Russian Committee, which would take on the leadership of anti-Soviet activity conducted among the Soviet military POWs and the population of the regions of the USSR occupied by Germany. With this goal, according to VLASOV, he had created an initiative group, which included the following individuals who had crossed over into the service of the Germans: former member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army and division commissar ZHILENKOV; former head of the Libava Naval Academy and Major General of Shore Service BLAGOVESCHENSKY; former staff editor of *Izvestia* ZYKOV; and burgomaster of the city of Smolensk and attorney MENSHAGIN. At that same time, VLASOV showed me the text of the address to the POWs and population of the Soviet Union that had been put together under his leadership and that called for the overthrow of the Soviet regime and the establishment of a new government in the USSR. VLASOV expressed confidence that the fight against the Soviet government that he had started would be successful, since the POWs and population, according to him, were dissatisfied with the Soviet government, and he proposed that I take part in the creation of the Russian Committee. I agreed, since I believed that in order to energize anti-Soviet activity in German territory, a leadership body had to be created that would take on the functions of the government, thus giving the fight against the Soviet regime a more solid form. After that conversation with VLASOV, we signed the address of the Russian Committee. VLASOV signed it as chair and I as secretary. After some time, the address was also signed by ZHILENKOV, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and MENSHAGIN, as members of the "committee."

QUESTION: You are being presented with a typed version of the address of the Russian Committee. Is this the document you signed?

ANSWER: Yes. The document presented to me as the address of the Russian Committee has my signature, and I signed it. I should say that when the Germany had made typographic copies of the address, it was sent out with only two signatures, that of

VLASOV and my own. The signatures of ZHILENKOV, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, ZYKOV, and MENSHAGIN were only on the original copy of the address.

QUESTION: You testified that the address was compiled and signed in Berlin. Is that so?

ANSWER: Yes, I confirm that the Russian Committee was created in Berlin.

QUESTION: And why does the address state that the Russian Committee is located in Smolensk?

ANSWER: It was not to our advantage to show that the Russian Committee, which was to take on the function of government, was created on German territory. We therefore indicated the city of Smolensk in the address and we recruited the burgomaster of the city of Smolensk MENSHAGIN to take part in the committee.

I should say that VLASOV and I, after the creation of the Russian Committee, made attempts to draw in generals of the Red Army that were being held in German camps.

In December 1942, VLASOV spoke with former commander of the 12th Army, Lieutenant General PONEDELIN and former commanding officer of the 19th Army, Lieutenant General LUKIN, whom he offered the opportunity to sign the address of the Russian Committee, but they both declined. In addition to this, VLASOV and I spoke with former commanding officer of the 8th Rifle Corps Major General SNEGOV. VLASOV lobbied SNEGOV, saying that a large part of the population of the Soviet Union and especially the POWs had anti-Soviet inclinations and that our open move against the Soviet regime would find support among these POWs and bring us success. In spite of our pleas, Snegov refused our proposal.

In June 1943, on orders from STRIKFELD, I went to the camp for volunteer forces in the east, in Lötzen, where after I gave a report about the Russian Committee, I had a conversation with the former executive officer of the 3rd Guard Army,[131] Major General KRUPENNIKOV. He told me that the Germans were treating him well, created better living conditions for him in comparison with the rest of the prisoners, and allowed him to conduct classes in tactics with the command staff in the camp. When I asked KRUPENNIKOV about his feelings for the Russian Committee, he answered that several proposals of the committee were not clear

to him, and therefore, though he sympathized with VLASOV, he would not take part in the committee's anti-Soviet activity.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet activity did this Russian Committee that you created conduct?

ANSWER: After VLASOV's creation of the Russian Committee, first of all, measures were taken to take control of the leadership of anti-Soviet work among the POWs. By agreement with the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, the Russian Committee was given the anti-Soviet newspapers Dawn [*Zarya*] and Volunteer [*Dobrovolets*]. The initial editor for the newspaper *Dawn* was BLAGOVESCHENSKY, who—in order to mask his identity—signed himself as Engineer Blagoveschensky and changed his initials. The newspaper *Dobrovolets* was edited by ZHILENKOV.

Along with this, in order to organize oral propaganda among the POWs and the population of the occupied regions of the USSR, the committee was given charge of the courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide.

Beginning in February 1943, BLAGOVECHENSKY, ZYKOV, and I began to regularly travel out to these courses and give lectures in which we explained the goals of the Russian Committee.

In addition, under my leadership, a so-called anti-Bolshevik conference[132] was held in May 1943 in Dabendorf, at which I spoke in the name of the Russian Committee with a report that had been prepared with VLASOV and STRIKFELD. In attendance at the conference, in addition to the students of the courses, there were representatives from several volunteer units that served within the German army. In my presentation, I mostly retold the contents of the address of the Russian Committee and called on those gathered to unite around the committee and energize the fight against the Soviet regime.

I should say that VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, BLAGOVESCHENSKY, and I tried to create an air of independence about the committee, and therefore found it awkward to continue work at the courses in Wuhlheide, which were well-known as courses of the German command. At our request, in February 1943, the Germans moved the courses for propagandists to a new place—Dabendorf, near Berlin. BLAGOVESCHENSKY became the head of the courses, his assistant was the former deputy to the executive officer of the

Northwest Front, Major General TRUKHIN, and I was appointed as the editor of *Dawn* in BLAGOVESCHENSKY's stead.

QUESTION: When did TRUKHIN join the Russian Committee?

ANSWER: With the organization of the courses for propagandists in Dabendorf, the question arose of the selection of instructor staff. Representative of the Propaganda Division STRIKFELD informed me that in the camp in Wustrau that belonged to ROSENBERG's Eastern Ministry there was a group of POWs with whom I should talk. It was proposed that I travel to Wustrau, meet with the people, and then inform about my opinion. I received permission from the Eastern Ministry for my trip and in May 1943, I went. In the camp, I met TRUKHIN, with whom I was on friendly terms in 1925 when we studied together in the Frunze Academy.

QUESTION: Did TRUKHIN work for the Germans while at Wustrau?

ANSWER: Yes, Wustrau was a training camp of the Eastern Ministry in which people specially selected by the Germans were trained for work among the local population in the occupied districts of the USSR. The leaders of this training were POREMSKY and BRUNST, who were White émigrés and active members of the anti-Soviet organization National-Labor Union for the New Generation. TRUKHIN, former graduate student of one of the institutes of the Academy of Sciences ZAITSEV, and former commander of a sapper squad SHTIFANOV were instructors of this training camp and active participants in the anti-Soviet work being done there.

I informed TRUKHIN of the creation of the courses of the Russian Committee in Dabendorf and proposed that he come over to us. TRUKHIN stated that he had heard of the Russian Committee, agreed with its agenda, and would gladly come over to the propagandist courses in Dabendorf. At the same time, TRUKHIN recommended that I keep in mind ZAITSEV and SHTIFANOV, who also agreed to come over to work for the Russian Committee.

When I returned to Berlin, I reported on the results of my trip to VLASOV, who right away asked STRIKFELD to take action regarding moving TRUKHIN, ZAITSEV, and SHTIFANOV to us in Dabendorf. Their transfer was achieved around the end of

March 1943, when regularly-scheduled lessons for the courses began.

The system for the courses for propagandists in Dabendorf was structurally the same as in Wuhlheide. The students were given lectures including the agenda put forward in the address of the Russian Committee, and in addition on topics like: Race Theory, National-Socialism, The True Conditions in the USSR, and the Unavoidable Death of the Soviet Regime, along with a number of others, which essentially amounted to slander of the Soviet reality and praise of fascist Germany.

Along with this, excursions were prepared for the propagandists to see German factories and the farms of German kulaks. After completion of their studies, the propagandists were sent to volunteer units and camps for military POWs, where they conducted propaganda, calling on the former military service members of the Red Army to take up arms against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: You conducted propaganda calling for taking up arms against the Soviet regime not only among POWs. Who else did you try to recruit to your side?

ANSWER: Primarily, we wanted to make the Russian Committee popular among the POWs, the population of the occupied regions of the USSR and White émigrés. With this goal, VLASOV, accompanied by his adjutant ANTONOV, made a trip to Smolensk, Orsha, and Mogilev in March-April 1943 and somewhat later to the region of the city of Pskov. On returning from the trip, VLASOV said that he had given speeches several times in the name of the Russian Committee at meetings of local residents arranged by the Germans. VLASOV also indicated that during his speeches he endured much discomfort due to the fact that he could not give satisfactory answers to questions asked of him by the population.

It was proposed to me by STRIKFELD and his assistant DELINSHAUSEN that I establish contact with the White émigré circles. STRIKFELD also said that the emigrants in Paris were showing a particular interest in the Russian Committee. It was decided that I would go to France, and my trip was approved through the Anti-Comintern,[133] since it went beyond the limits of activity for the armed forces. On this question, someone from the Anti-Comintern, VRANGEL, a relative of Baron VRANGEL,[134] spoke with me and also advised me to visit Paris and to speak

publicly among the White émigré community. In July 1943, accompanied by former commander of the 41st Rifle Division BOYARSKY, who had just joined the Russian Committee, I left for Paris, where I was met by a representative of the Paris Division of the Anti-Comintern, a Frenchman whose name I do not remember, and the leader of the Paris White émigrés, ZHEREBKOV. An announcement of my arrival was placed in the White émigré newspaper *Paris Courier*.

On 24 July, 1943, I gave a lengthy speech at a meeting of White émigrés in the Salle Wagram, where I told about the goals of the Russian Committee and said that the main goal was the destruction of Bolshevism and the regime of STALIN. I called on the White émigrés to support the Germans, since the victory of the German armed forces would also be our victory, and called on them to unite with the committee. While VLASOV was traveling through the occupied territories of the Soviet Union and I was in France, ZHILENKOV traveled to the Soviet-German front and conducted anti-Soviet work in the military units that the Germans had formed from POWs.

QUESTION: With the goal of fighting against the Soviet regime, you took active part in work to form military units from the POWs. Why are you not talking about that?

ANSWER: The formation of units of the so-called Russian Volunteer Army was handled directly by the German headquarters for volunteer forces in the east, which was led by General HELLMICH, and after him by General KÖSTRING. These units created by the Germans were included as personnel of the German army. In 1943, since there were an increasing number of cases where military units made up of POWs, when confronted by the Red Army, would run into the woods and surrender to the Soviet forces, the Germans decided to send them to France, Holland, Denmark, Belgium and Northern Italy, thereby freeing up the German units engaged on the Atlantic coast, which could be brought to the Soviet-German front.

STRIKFELD asked VLASOV in my presence to give a public speech and explain the necessity for this transfer of forces. VLASOV at first resisted giving such a speech, saying that the Russian Committee was calling on people to fight against the Soviet regime and therefore the volunteers would not understand why they were being forced to defend the Atlantic Wall. In the course of this conversation, STRIKFELD managed to sway

VLASOV's opinion. STRIKFELD cited the worsening conditions for the Germans on the Eastern Front and the impossibility of preventing the exit of RLA units into the woods or over to the side of the Red Army. I do not remember exactly how VLASOV answered, but in the end, he agreed that the volunteer units of the Eastern Front had to be transferred to a more calm region in order to maintain his influence in these units.At that time, VLASOV wrote with his own hand his open letter to the Russian volunteers in which he made an attempt to explain why they were being transferred to the Western Front. The letter was called "Open Letter of General Vlasov to the Russian Volunteers" and amounted to the following: "The German command is transferring Russian volunteer units to the west temporarily in order to get them into shape, equip and arm them, and after that they will be returned to the Eastern Front. Our business remains as before—our goal is to fight the Soviet regime, and we will be in the west only temporarily."

The contents of the letter were agreed upon with the head of the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, General von VEDEL. In this way, in the fall of 1943, volunteer battalions ended up in Denmark, Holland, Belgium, France, and Northern Italy.

QUESTION: In these units of POWs that the Germans formed, the Russian Committee conducted active propaganda. Talk about this.

ANSWER: In the beginning of winter 1943, ZHILENKOV was in France and traveled to all of the volunteer units arriving there. After ZHILENKOV's report, VLASOV agreed that measures needed to be taken to strengthen the position of the Russian Committee among the volunteers. As the result of a meeting on this question, VLASOV, myself, ZHILENKOV, and TRUKHIN decided to create a network of small propaganda units in Denmark, France, and Northern Italy. These propaganda units were created in Denmark under the leadership of Colonel and White émigré SAKHAROV, and in France such a group was led first by Lt. Col. MELESHKEVICH, and later, in March 1944, I went there. In Northern Italy, Colonel RIL was in charge of all propaganda work.

QUESTION: What was the work of these units?

ANSWER: Twice a week, and then more often, propaganda units put out information leaflets which published German

accounts of the situation at the front and notices from the German press bureau in Paris, Denmark, and Italy. In addition, groups were given a certain number of propagandists sent from among those individuals completing the courses in Dabendorf in order to conduct anti-Soviet propaganda directly within the volunteer units. I should say that by the beginning of 1944, all these units were reformulated into battalions that formed the third battalion of a German regiment. They were moved out to the forward edge where, in the event of an Allied landing, they would take the first hit. All the propaganda work in these battalions was directed toward the ideas mentioned in VLASOV's open letter to the Russian volunteers serving within German units.

Aiming to strengthen propaganda, in March 1944 I went to France for the second time, visiting all along the southern shore from the Spanish and French border to the border of France and Italy. On these trips, aside from generally acquainting myself with the units, each time I spoke with the volunteers in the spirit of VLASOV's open letter. After that, already after the landing of the Anglo-American forces, I went twice to Northern France, Belgium, and Holland. On these trips, I spoke with the volunteers about the fact that if the Anglo-American forces were to advance, they would have to fight them, since they were the allies of the Soviet regime. I especially underscored that if we did not have the opportunity to fight against the Soviet forces, then we must fight against their allies.

At that time, TRUKHIN made a trip to Italy. Another time he was in Holland and ZYKOV was in Denmark. For all intents and purposes, this work did not lead to anything, because the units of the RLA, though they did take part in the battles against the western allies, fought very poorly. It should be said that over the course of all of our traitorous work for the Germans, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, and I insistently tried to get the Germans to put all the military units formed from POWs under our command. It would be possible to solve this problem only if VLASOV had the opportunity to meet with HITLER. Since HITLER did not want to receive VLASOV, VLASOV started trying to get a meeting with HIMMLER, and as a result of his efforts, HIMMLER agreed to see him.

QUESTION: Do you know what VLASOV and HIMMLER agreed on?

ANSWER: HIMMLER told VLASOV that he was taking responsibility for the Russian question, and therefore in the future VLASOV should coordinate his activities not with the representatives of the High Command of the Armed Forces of Germany, but only with the administration of the SS. At the same time, HIMMLER appointed a personal representative to VLASOV, one Oberführer of the SS Krüger. Himmler tasked VLASOV with uniting the existing anti-Soviet organizations under the protection of the Germans, presenting them with the right to choose whether as a result of this unification a body might be formed that could be called the government of Russia or committee.

Along with this, VLASOV was permitted to form 10 divisions, which the Germans promised to arm and equip with uniforms and gear. At the same meeting it was decided that the formation of units would take place in the south of Bavaria and that the first division would be made up of people from KAMINSKY's punitive brigade and the volunteer battalions taken from the Western Front. After VLASOV's meeting with HIMMLER and notice about it in German newspapers, we did a great deal of preliminary work, the result of which was the creation of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

QUESTION: How was the way laid for the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Over the course of September-October 1944, VLASOV, myself, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN and ZAKUTNY—the former executive officer of a rifle corps, who came to us from the German Ministry of Propaganda—discussed the question of the structure of the future anti-Soviet organization. First, the decision was made to call it the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR) and to publish a manifesto in its name. After that, work began on the manifesto of the committee.

QUESTION: Who personally participated in compiling the Manifesto of CLPR?

ANSWER: I should say that in anticipation of an official opening of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, VLASOV received permission from HIMMLER through Krüger to create the apparatus of this committee. Thus appeared the Organizational Administration, of which I was appointed the head. Then there was the Propaganda Administration, headed by ZHILENKOV, and the Civil Affairs Administration, which was

headed by ZAKUTNY, and they set about forming a military headquarters, the head of which was TRUKHIN. The compilation of the manifesto was given to ZHILENKOV and his administration. Essentially, the first people to work on this project were: ZHILENKOV, ZAITSEV, SHTIFANOV, and former *For the Homeland* newspaper correspondent KOVALCHUK. The project took a fairly long time because a great number of individuals were drawn in to discuss it. Then, when a draft had been composed, it was discussed again by the future presidium of the committee, which was appointed then and essentially joined later, including VLASOV, myself, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, Professor BOGATYRCHUK, who had escaped with the Germans from Kiev, and émigré Professor RUDNEV.

The five generals who would make up the future presidium, minus Professors BOGATYRCHUK and RUDNEV, sat and went through the manifesto word by word making corrections. As I remember it now, there was a big argument over the issue of how to formulate the first two points relative to the general situation. TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I insisted on less sharp formulas regarding the English and Americans, but ZHILENKOV and VLASOV convinced us and their version was accepted. At VLASOV's insistence, a point was included in the manifesto about the fact that the Soviet regime was supposedly hiding its rush to destruction with the slogans of freedom, democracy, and civilization.

We paid particular attention in editing the section on criticism of the Soviet system, the main sense of which was that the Bolshevik party had supposedly taken power in Russia, stolen away the rights fought for and won by the people, and plunged them into a state of need and lack of rights.

I should say that in the section on the basis for the new government system in Russia, the formulation was lifted entirely from the agenda of the National-Labor Union for the New Generation, though ZHILENKOV vehemently objected to this. We introduced points about the liquidation of collective farms and there was a new reaction to the point about establishing private property in Russia.

QUESTION: In the manifesto, it indicates that the names of several members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia were not published due to the fact that they

were located in the territory of the USSR. Name those like-minded people that are in the Red Army.

ANSWER: The point that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia supposedly had members in the rear territory of the Soviet Union was introduced into the manifesto at the suggestion of ZHILENKOV in order to lend more weight to our group in the eyes of the Germans. I should say that VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I assured the Germans more than once that there were people of like mind in the Red Army who supposedly supported our intervention against the Soviet regime, but in reality not one of us could name a single name.ZHILENKOV's suggestion to include a point in the manifesto about people of like mind supposedly in the territory of the USSR was accepted because we understood the necessity of reinforcing our prestige with the Germans. When the manifesto was completed, it was given to HIMMLER. HIMMLER made several corrections, and the manifesto was completed in the final version, in which it would be published.

It took just as long as the manifesto to decide on the committee membership.

QUESTION: How were the members of the committee selected in practice?

ANSWER: In practice, they were selected only by the future members of the presidium—VLASOV, myself, ZHILENKOV, ZAKUTNY, and TRUKHIN. The most energetic among them was ZAKUTNY, who had previously worked in the propaganda agency called Jumneta and was familiar with a number of scientists who had fled from the occupied territories of the USSR with the Germans. At ZAKUTNY's request, they put together lists of candidates and gave them to me as the head of the Organizational Administration, and every day I reported these lists to VLASOV. The lists were compiled with the idea that they should include representatives of the army, the émigré community, and the civilian population that had been driven by the Germans into German territory.

QUESTION: Who from the White Guard became a member of the committee?

ANSWER: In the end, members of the committee included: von LAMPE, representative of the Russian All-Military Union in Germany; generals of the White Army BALABIN and ABRAMOV; leader of the Russian All-Military Union in the Balkans KREUTER;

and the leader of the National Union of War Participants, TURKUL. From the National-Labor Union of the New Generation there was KAZANTSEV and the leader of the Paris White émigré community, ZHEREBKOV.

It should also be said that the lists of members of the committee were looked over by the leader of the Russian section of the Gestapo of the city of Berlin, MAIKOVSKY, who suggested that we remove several individuals from the list.

At the end of October 1944, gathered at VLASOV's apartment, we looked through the presented list of candidates for membership in the committee and made a final decision on the number of people in the presidium of the committee and the individuals who should be included in it. After that, VLASOV, myself, and other future members of the presidium had individual conversations with each of the candidates marked for committee membership. At the suggestion of ZHILENKOV, it was decided to conduct an organizational meeting of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in the city of Prague, to whence a special commission headed by the former executive officer of the 6th Army, Colonel MEANDROV, traveled in order to make arrangements.

On 14 November, 1944, there was an organizational meeting held in Prague for the members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, at which the Reich Minister of Germany, FRANK; RIBBENTROP's deputy, Obergruppenführer LORENS; and the head of the Slovak puppet government, TISSO, were present and gave introductory speeches.

After that, the presidium of the committee was elected and there was a formal signing of the manifesto.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a photograph card of the session of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which is a visual record of your speaking before the committee. What issue did you address at this meeting?

ANSWER: The moment portrayed in the photo card shown to me is when I, speaking before the session of the members of CLPR on 14 November, 1944, read aloud the rules and regulations of the committee. I did not speak about any other issues at the meeting.

QUESTION: How was the anti-Soviet activity of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia organized?

ANSWER: After the creation of CLPR by the Germans, we were presented with broad possibilities for conducting anti-Soviet propaganda. CLPR was written about in the German newspapers, and an abridged version of the manifesto was printed in them as well. The Propaganda Administration, led by ZHILENKOV, had the opportunity to speak on the radio, had two anti-Soviet newspapers, Will of the People [*Volya naroda*] and For the Homeland [*Za rodinu*], and sent their representatives to the front, trying to gain popularity for CLPR on as large a scale as possible. The CLPR manifesto was reproduced in large numbers, and a large number of color photographs of the organizational meeting were reproduced, along with anti-Soviet brochures and leaflets that were dropped in the rear territory of the Soviet forces.

The Civil Affairs Administration headed by ZAKUTNY created a broad network of its representatives in camps created by the Germans for workers forcibly driven to Germany and in a number of German cities. These representatives were propagandists of the committee and organizers of anti-Soviet activity among the civilian population taken by the Germans from Soviet territory.

The Organizational Administration, under my leadership, provided for the conduct of all activities of the committee and the preparation for regular meetings of the committee, and organized the national work of the committee, which was conducted by means of the creation of national councils within the committee—Russian, Ukrainian, Caucasian, and Turkestani.

The Organizational Administration secured an agreement in December 1944 to receive an undetermined amount of credit from the Germans for an undetermined period of time—that is to say, the Germans retained the right to decide how much money they would give and could at any time cease issuing more. This credit agreement created the appearance of financial independence for the committee.

QUESTION: Who signed the financial agreement with the Germans?

ANSWER: The agreement was signed by VLASOV, as the Chair of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, and from the German side, State-Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Baron STEENGRACHT.

QUESTION: You are being presented with a typed financial agreement between A. A. VLASOV and the government of Great Germany. Were you present at the signing of this document?

ANSWER: The copy of the financial agreement between Chair of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia A. A. VLASOV and the government of Great Germany being presented to me is the original, and I was present at its signing in the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 18 December, 1944.

QUESTION: In point 4 of the agreement, it is stated that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia is obliged to reimburse the credit offered from its assets. Where were the means to accomplish this supposed to come from?

ANSWER: VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I supposed that after the overthrow of the Soviet regime, the gold reserves of the Soviet Union would fall into our hands, and from these we promised to repay the Germans for their expenditure on the committee's anti-Soviet activity.

QUESTION: As the leader of the Organizational Administration of CLPR, you were the principal individual responsible for the preparation and conduct of spy work against the USSR. Name the spies that you inserted into the Soviet rear territory.

ANSWER: Within the Organizational Administration, a Security Division was created under my direct leadership. For the first part of its existence, this division—led by TENZOROV, who said he was a docent at one of the institutes in Moscow—handled only the organization of VLASOV's guard and the collection of information on the activity of the Cossacks, peoples of the Caucasus, and Ukrainians, who were under the auspices of ROSENBERG's Eastern Ministry.

Beginning in December 1944, the Security Division began to handle the training of agents for work on the Soviet side. For this, the head of the Security Division, TENZOROV, made an arrangement with one of the German intelligence agencies about presenting the committee with the opportunity to train agents. In the second half of January 1944 (sic), the Germans gave housing in the region of Marienbad and the Security Division selected an appropriate number of instructors and organized a school for the training of intelligence agents. It was headed by a former major of the Red Army whose name I have forgotten but who was directly under the deputy head of the Security Division, Major KALUGIN.

On approximately 10 April, 1945, the head of the school personally came to see me and reported on the status of the school. He said that 30 people had been chosen to undergo the training and that they had already arrived at the school and, in his opinion, seemed to be reliable people who could carry out the assignment in the Soviet rear territory. The report was given in the presence of Major KALUGIN, who suggested that upon completion of the training we select a group of intelligence agents and first send that group to the region of the forests of Minsk to organize an uprising. I sanctioned this activity.

I should say that I did not have to get involved in this work on a more detailed level, since I was busy with preparations for and holding the sessions of the committee, which took place in Karlsbad. At the first one, the decision was made to reorganize the Turkestani National Council; at the second VLASOV gave a report on the general status and the decision was made to appoint me as VLASOV's deputy in all matters.

QUESTION: When did the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russian move to Karlsbad?

ANSWER: With the front approaching the Oder River, the situation in Berlin became alarming. Members of the committee began to express rather sharply their desire to leave Berlin. VLASOV managed to get permission through Krüger to move the committee from Berlin to Karlsbad, where they intended to continue their anti-Soviet activity.

In March 1945, the main staff of the committee left in great haste for Karlsbad, leaving behind in Berlin a small group of workers from the Propaganda Administration who continued to publish the CLPR newspapers *Will of the People* and *For the Homeland*.

With the approach of the front to Karlsbad, the question came up for myself, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, ZAKUTNY, and TRUKHIN of what to do going forward. It was decided to leave and go further away from the Soviet zone. I do not know the sources, but there was a rumor circulating among members of the committee that by the decision of the Yalta conference, [135] Czechoslovakia would be included in the Soviet zone of occupation and that Soviet forces would go no further; Bavaria would be occupied by the Americans. We therefore decided to go to exactly that region.

QUESTION: Were you counting on continuing the fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: Yes. VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I made plans to continue the fight against the Soviet government.

QUESTION: And what were your plans for further fighting against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: There were two proposals. ZHILENKOV proposed that the main core of the committee move to one of the southern regions of Germany, between Innsbruck and Salzburg. He was motivated in this by the fact that it was a mountainous region, the Soviet forces would reach it, and there it would be possible, if the need arose, to get lost in the flow of all the Russian refugees that would be coming from Austria and Central Germany. In this way, the region was the most advantageous; these people would need organization and pressure from the people above them to keep them from returning to the Soviet Union and to encourage them to join the committee.

In addition to this, ZHILENKOV's proposal had another side. At that time, the second division was being formed, and the first division had already been moved forward to the region southeast of Berlin against the Soviet forces. ZHILENKOV proposed stealthily moving these troops away into the mountainous region of Tyrol and, under the cover of the terrain, coming to an agreement with the Americans about procuring the rights for CLPR to continue its activity. I supported ZHILENKOV, agreeing that the southern region of Germany was where we needed to gather everyone that we could, steal away the first and second divisions from the north, occupy a gorge in the Tyrol mountains, and begin negotiations with the Americans. VLASOV agreed with me and with ZHILENKOV.

On 16 April 1945, we were moving in the direction of Füssen, which we had chosen for further activity. I personally transmitted by radio VLASOV's order to TRUKHIN that he should not get caught up in battle with the Anglo-Americans, but should immediately begin retreat in the direction of Füssen.

In addition, I prepared Captain LAPIN, provided him with appropriate instructions and some sort of means so that he did not wait for the retreating forces, and crossed over to the Americans to warn them that these were General VLASOV's troops and a general would come and negotiate with them.

On 17 April 1945, the committee, continuing flight from the Red Army, crossed into Füssen, where on 20 April 1945, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I decided to establish direct communications with the Anglo-Americans, and it was decided that I should do this.

By that time it was completely obvious to us that Germany's defeat was guaranteed, and that together with this, the fate of the committee had been decided. However, none of us planned on appearing before the Soviet regime for an answer.

Mamukov said to me directly that, "For you it is obviously not a secret that the Germans accuse the leaders of RLPP of having had contact with the English and not without foundation, as they did have communication throughout the war and our present currently depends on us not ending up on the front against the English. That would be a guarantee of our personal fates and further anti-Soviet activity."

Here MAMUKOV reported that he was fully confident that the English would not hand over anyone who would fight against the Soviet regime, because a large number of the members of RLPP remained against the English front. He said, "If the committee were to fall into the hands of the English, the English would not only not hand us over, they would provide us with the opportunity to further the fight against the Soviets."

In Füssen, I had a meeting with the leader of RLPP, BAIDALAKOV. He also told me, "Don't worry. The western Allies will not hand you over. I should tell you frankly that we have communications with the English. For now there is still limited information, but it is nevertheless clear that at the very least the English will not hand over RLPP members." BAIDALAKOV personally advised me to cross over to the English and rely on my acquaintance with him, since the English knew him, and said that I would receive support.

BAIDALAKOV and I got to talking about the fact that we needed to continue the fight against the Soviet regime, not in the way it had been structured during the time of war, but in a new way, along the lines of organizing a conspiracy—underground work directed against the USSR. "Whether it be the party or the committee," said Baidalakov, "in any case I am firmly convinced that there will be such an opportunity."

In this way, in discussing the question of the ongoing fate of the committee in Füssen, I personally came to the decision to cross

over to the Anglo-Americans and continue the fight against the Soviet government. When VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I decided that I would be sent to connect with the Americans, VLASOV gave me an order—to appear on the side of the Americans and ask that they not give us over to the Soviet command. If they do not hand us over, VLASOV said, then it goes without saying that there will be more work to do against the Soviet regime. VLASOV told me, "While you are in that zone, you will do everything that you can to unite for the purposes of continuing the fight." VLASOV himself decided to stay with the troops, to preserve them as an armed force with the goal of further fighting against the Soviet regime. But the question arose of what to do with the rank and file members of our organization, and VLASOV said the following, "Undoubtedly, part of our people will return to the Soviet side. Whether they are repatriated or themselves choose to cross over is another question, but there is no doubt that a significant number of people will remain, because they have shown themselves to be active traitors, people who energetically joined the armed fight against the Soviets and will in any case try to remain here. We will tell them to gather in the agricultural regions of Tyrol and southern Bavaria; you will be with the peasants, so you will not starve. We will tell them that they do not need to return to the Soviet Union. In this way, we will open a huge base for further work."

ZHILENKOV supported VLASOV, but he expressed a somewhat different point of view. He assumed that in the initial period after the German defeat, we would not be able to unite the people located in Bavaria. ZHILENKOV proposed that the leadership throw out all ideas of caring for the rank and file participants of CLPR and the RLA and that we hide somewhere in a third country—he specifically named Switzerland and Spain—and create a cell there that would take up underground anti-Soviet work. Then, according to ZHILENKOV, we would establish communication with those people who remained behind in Bavaria and in this way continue our work.

TRUKHIN said only one thing: that for the future of anti-Soviet work there was, of course, only one possibility, and that was to cross over to the side of the English and under their protection continue anti-Soviet work.

After the final decision to continue anti-Soviet activity in the American zone, VLASOV and I divided up responsibilities. On 17

April, towards evening, the remnants of the committee arrived in the region of Füssen. VLASOV gave me a document with his signature in which it indicated that I was authorized to conduct negotiations with the English, Americans, or French concerning CLPR or the RLA. He himself left Füssen for Salzburg, where the two divisions were meant to arrive and where, by our calculations, it would be possible to gather a certain number of RLA participants. On 29 April, 1945, I left VLASOV and went to one of the villages 17 kilometers from Füssen and appeared in the headquarters of the 20th American Corps, and from there I was sent to the commanding officer of the 7th American Army, General Patch.[136]

In conversation with General PATCH, I stated that I had arrived from General VLASOV, indicated the region where Vlasov's troops were located, and asked them to take us under the protection of the American forces and not hand us over to the Soviet command. PATCH replied that he did not have the authority to handle political questions, and that the questions I had put forth could only be decided by the U.S. government.

After some time, I was taken to an American camp for military POWs in the city of Augsburg, where I met ZHILENKOV.

QUESTION: How did ZHILENKOV end up with the Americans?

ANSWER: ZHILENKOV and Colonel RIL, the former assistant to the head of operations for the headquarters of the 22nd Army,[137] crossed over to the Americans in the area around Innsbruck.

QUESTION: What moves did you make to implement your plans of furthering the fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: When we first met, ZHILENKOV informed me that he had submitted several requests to the American command for a meeting with responsible individuals, but that so far only a lieutenant named STUART had come to see him, and he was unable to come to any sort of agreement with him. ZHILENKOV and I discussed the matter and put together a document in both of our names in which we expressed our hopes that the Americans would not hand us over to the Soviet command and directly offered our services to American intelligence regarding obtaining information that interested them about the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: Were your proposals accepted by American intelligence?

ANSWER: Yes. On 2 October, 1945, myself, ZHILENKOV, RIL, and also former head of artillery for one of the rifle divisions of the central front Colonel Kardakov,[138] former assistant to the head of intelligence for the headquarters of the 19th Army LAPIN, and former worker from the Northern Fleet DENISOV were taken to an American intelligence camp in the city of Oberrussel, some 18 kilometers from Frankfurt-on-Main.

After a short time, an American named SANDERS came to see us—he spoke fluent Russian—and he called on me first to explain what our group was about and then he proposed that we work for American intelligence. I consulted with ZHILENKOV and we decided to write out answers to the questions that the Americans had.

QUESTION: What information did you give to American intelligence?

ANSWER: At the suggestion of SANDERS, I wrote a detailed report for American intelligence on the question of officer training within the Red Army. I listed the military academies, indicating their locations and the nature of the specialties of those they were training. SANDERS was especially interested in the Academy of the General Headquarters. I wrote down everything I knew about it in detail, indicating the time of its creation, the organization of activities, and output capacity, and I named several heads of departments.

I also wrote a report on staging for mobilization in the Red Army.

QUESTION: What did ZHILENKOV write about for the American intelligence?

ANSWER: ZHILENKOV wrote several serious reports about the international policies of the USSR—on the Polish question, on the question of the Balkans, and the Middle East—in which he tried to convince the Americans that the Soviet government, contrary to its official statements, was implementing completely different policies in Poland, the Balkans, and the Middle East, supposedly against the interests of the USA. ZHILENKOV also wrote a report on the armed forces of the Soviet Union, the main idea of which was that the USSR would turn from being an ally of the USA to its enemy. ZHILENKOV wrote an especially large amount about the higher bodies in the party and the leaders of the Soviet government, garnishing his statements with various slanderous ideas.

QUESTION: What obligations did you have to the American intelligence?

ANSWER: As I already testified, in our letter to the American command, ZHILENKOV and I offered our cooperation to American intelligence.[139] After that, we were to write a statement on a number of questions, and when we had completed that, there was to be a final conversation on how we could be of further use to the interests of American intelligence. ZHILENKOV himself told me that he had such a conversation with them, and that he promised the Americans that he would give them important information about the policies of the Soviet government in 2–3 months' time. With me, the Americans behaved differently for some reason—they up and handed me over to the command of the Soviet forces.

QUESTION: You have not fully told of your hostile activity and criminal connections and will be interrogated again.

The interrogation was interrupted.

The transcript has been recorded accurately from my words and read by me.

Malyshkin

Interrogated by: Section Head of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate "SMERSH"

Lt. Col. Sokolov

Deputy Section Head of the Investigation Division of the Main Directorate "SMERSH"

Major Kovalenko

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 2. L. 62–87. Original.

12. Transcripts of the interrogations of G. N. Zhilenkov and other investigative documents pertaining to his case

N° 12.1. Transcript of the interrogation of G. N. Zhilenkov. 4 May, 1946.

INTERROGATION TRANSCRIPT
of the arrested ZHILENKOV Georgi Nikolaevich
from 4 May, 1946.

ZHILENKOV G. N., born 1910 in Voronezh, Russian, citizen of the USSR, former member of the All-Union Communist Party since 1929, former member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army, brigade commissar.

QUESTION: You have been arrested as a traitor to the homeland. Talk about the crimes you have committed.

ANSWER: In October 1941, while holding the post of member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army of the Western Front, I surrendered to the Germans and, betraying my homeland, crossed over into the service of the German command and German intelligence, on whose assignments I conducted anti-Soviet activity over the course of a number of years.

QUESTION: Did you surrender to the Germans voluntarily?

ANSWER: I surrendered to the Germans under the following circumstances. On 5 October, 1941, as a member of the Military Council, I was given an order from the commanding officer of the Western Front, KONEV, to concentrate the forces of the army headquarters in the region of Mozhaysk by 10 October. I received this order at a time when the 32nd, 19th, and other armies operating on the Western Front had already been encircled by the German forces.

On 7 October, 1941, I ordered the army headquarters to break through the encirclement of the enemy in the direction of the city of Vyazma. While trying to break through, myself and my adjutant, VESELOVSKY, who was with me at the time, along with secretary of the Military Council MINAEV and a staff member from the headquarters, Major KOROVIN, were cut off by the Germans, and as a result, I lost control of the headquarters.

Once I was cut off from my headquarters, VESELOVSKY, MINAEV, KOROVIN, and I joined a small group of Red Army soldiers whose names I do not know, and we began to move through the woods in the direction of the regional center Semlevo to reunite with units of the Red Army. On the way, on 14 October, 1941, in the area to the north of the regional center Volostopyatnitsa, we were surrounded by German soldiers and I, without offering resistance, surrendered to them.

QUESTION: Did the Germans know that you were a brigade commissar of the Red Army?

ANSWER: No. I surrendered while wearing the uniform of a Red Army soldier. I had buried my party card, personal identification, and merit certificate, along with rank markers for brigade commissar of the Red Army, in the woods before I surrendered.

QUESTION: Were you interrogated by the Germans?

ANSWER: After capture, the Germans took me, along with a group of captured Red Army soldiers, to Volostopyatnitsa, where I and the others were called for interrogation by a German officer whose name I do not know.

QUESTION: What did you tell the German officer?

ANSWER: In the interrogation, the German officer asked about my biography and service in the Red Army. Hiding my real name, I stated that I served as a driver in the Red Army and that my name was MAKSIMOV. At the moment of surrender, the only person who knew me was Major KOROVIN, who had been separated from me along with the group of Red Army soldiers and sent by the Germans to a camp for military POWs; I remained in a group of Red Army soldiers who did not know me.

After the interrogation, the German officer proposed that I go into the service of the German army. I expressed my willingness to work for the Germans, and until May 1942, I worked as a driver in the transport column of the 252nd Infantry Division, carrying ammunition to the front and taking wounded Germans away.

During this work, I was able to scrape together a group of about 9–12 POWs who worked with me to form a sabotage group in the German rear territory. We were preparing an explosion of the Gzhatsk ammunition store when, having been betrayed by a lumber worker from Gzhatsk lumber mill, CHERNIKOV Pavel, who was one of the participants in our group and knew about the sabotage we were planning, I was arrested by the Germans. In the

interrogation and also in direct confrontation with CHERNIKOV, I denied that I had been preparing an explosion, however the Germans told me they had no doubt as to my guilt and that I would be shot. Ruled by self-serving motives and cowardice, I told the Germans that my name was not MAKSIMOV, but ZHILENKOV, and that I was a member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army and was prepared to actively fight against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: Did you set off on the path toward fighting the Soviet regime out of your own anti-Soviet convictions?

ANSWER: My anti-Soviet leanings appeared during the period of my imprisonment with the Germans. I did not believe in the strength of the Soviet Union and thought that the death of the Soviet order and the Bolshevik party in the war with Germany was inevitable. This conviction forced me to make the decision to go into the service of the Germans and fight with them against the Soviet regime and party.

QUESTION: How did the Germans react to your statement?

ANSWER: My admission made a big impact on the Germans, and I was immediately sent to the headquarters of the Central Front of the German forces, where my statement of my willingness to fight against the existing order in the Soviet Union was confirmed. I told the Germans that this intention could be corroborated through a specific plan of subversive activity, and likewise through my further anti-Soviet activity.

QUESTION: Did you put together a plan for subversive activity on the territory of the USSR?

ANSWER: Yes. From the headquarters of the Central Front, in June 1942 I was taken to the main German infantry base in the city of Angenburg-Lötzen, where I met with a colonel of the German general staff, von RONNE, who welcomed my offer, stating that it was necessary for me to prove my intentions through practical actions. I told him that I was ready to prove this through an open demonstration against the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: When did you first inform the Germans that you had previously been a party official in Moscow?

ANSWER: In conversation with RONNE, I told of how until 1941 I had served in the Red Army as a member of the Moscow Committee of the All-Union Communist Party. In connection with this, RONNE began to ask about the mood of members of the Soviet government in the first days of the war. I stated that many

of the high-ranking leaders of the Soviet Union were panicky in the early days of the war, and that only STALIN remained calm.

Then RONNE asked me several questions about TIMOSHENKO, to which I said that in my opinion, there were many Red Army generals who were better at leading troops than TIMOSHENKO, and that TIMOSHENKO had authority only among those Red Army generals who had previously served in the cavalry. I also said that TIMOSHENKO did not play a large role in the Red Army, since STALIN himself discharged all leadership of the troops.

After speaking with RONNE, I put together a plan for anti-Soviet work and gave it to the headquarters of the General Staff. The first part of my plan was comprised of slanderous musings on the leaders of the party and the Soviet government. In the second part of it, I laid out an agenda for fighting the Soviet regime, recommending that the Germans expand propaganda to energize anti-Soviet activity among the POWs who had crossed over into the service of the Germans so that they would not consider themselves merely German mercenaries.

As one of the main activities of this plan, I envisaged the creation by the Germans of a new "Russian government" and "new party" with the platform of eliminating the collective farms in the USSR and establishing private property. In this plan, I suggested a whole host of propaganda activities for the front lines and the rear territory of the Red Army.

QUESTION: How was the traitorous plan you proposed implemented?

ANSWER: After I wrote and presented the plan of anti-Soviet work to the headquarters of the German General Staff, Colonel RONNE offered me work in the Military Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, to which I agreed. I did not receive any answers to the questions that I included in the plan I worked up, and at RONNE's suggestion, I left for Berlin.

QUESTION: What did you do in the Military Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany?

ANSWER: In the Military Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, I edited anti-Soviet brochures and leaflets that were distributed at the front and in the rear of the Red Army. Specifically, I edited ZYKOV's brochure "Crash of the Soviet Economy," which he wrote under the pseudonym Nikolai Moskvich; several anti-Soviet brochures from the author

"Niman," whose real name I do not know; and some from other authors.

While I worked in the Military Propaganda Division, in 1942 at the request of Colonel MARTIN, who was the head of the division, I wrote a memorandum that repeated my proposals regarding the organization of anti-Soviet work. Colonel MARTIN promised to report my proposals to GOEBBELS.

It should be said that at the time, the Germans were so sure of their victory over the Red Army that they looked down on a whole host of proposals, such as mine, and as a result I was not received by GOEBBELS at that time.

In August 1942, at my personal request, I was sent to the volunteer brigade that was being formed by the Germans, the so-called Russian National Army, which was located in Osintorf, some 80 kilometers from Smolensk. In that brigade, I met with former Colonel of the Red Army BOYARSKY, who was the brigade commander, and also with White émigrés IVANOV Sergei and SAKHAROV Igor, who were the instigators for the creation of the brigade. In the RNA volunteer brigade, I held the post of head of the Organizational-Propaganda Division. As head of that division, I assembled a body of propagandists who conducted anti-Soviet propaganda in the brigade; I organized the publication of the anti-Soviet newspaper Homeland [*Rodina*], which was distributed among the soldiers and officers of the brigade; I wrote slanderous articles for the newspaper; and more than once I gave speeches of anti-Soviet content to the officers and soldiers.

QUESTION: What did you say in your public speeches?

ANSWER: In my speeches, I defamed the leaders of the party and the Soviet government and the Red Army. I called on the soldiers and officers of the brigade to fight with weapons in their hands alongside the Germans against the Soviet Union.

In October 1942, with the goal of energizing my anti-Soviet work, Colonel BOYARSKY and I wrote a memorandum and gave it to the German command. In this memo, we tried to convince the German command that the Soviet people would immediately cease their opposition if Germany changed its political goals for the war, announced a political declaration of the creation of the so-called "Committee for the Liberation of the Homeland" with the rights of the Russian government, and allowed the formation of a

Russian national army that would fight alongside the Germans against the Soviet Union.

In this same document, we made a schematic of the use of anti-Soviet forces. Specifically, we suggested that the Germans form the Russian National Army and then send it to a crucial part of the front in the direction of Moscow. They were to be convinced of the seriousness of our proposal based on their [the RNA's] actions in battle against the Red Army. We also had in mind, based on the German government's declaration, that the leadership of the Committee for the Liberation of the Homeland and the Russian National Army would, through widespread propaganda in the Soviet rear territory, prepare the Soviet forces to cross over to the side of the Germans.

At the same time, we suggested the creation of a network of intelligence and paratrooper units from the staff of the Russian National Army that would operate in the rear areas of the Soviet forces, destroying communication lines and sowing panic among the troops. In the case of individual Soviet units refusing to cross over to the side of the Germans voluntarily, according to our proposal, the Russian National Army was to force them to do so at gunpoint or be killed.

At the end of this memorandum, we urged the German command to begin the implementation of the activities we proposed without delay in order to accelerate the defeat of the Soviet forces in the summer of 1943.

QUESTION: You are being shown a memorandum signed by you and Colonel BOYARSKY dated 27 October 1942. Is this the document to which you are referring?

ANSWER: Yes, this is the one. Regarding this memorandum, I was called to Berlin, to ROSENBERG's ministry, in November 1942 for negotiations. I went to Berlin with former Lt. Col. of the Red Army URALSKY, who was BOYARSKY's deputy. In ROSENBERG's ministry, URALSKY and I were received by Doctor LEIBBRANDT and Professor MENDE. In conversation with LEIBBRANDT and MENDE, URALSKY and I told them our point of view, which had been explained in the above memorandum, and we asked them to accept our proposals, to show us some trust, and to help in the organization of anti-Soviet work. LIEBBRANDT promised to report our proposals to ROSENBERG and arrange a meeting with him.

QUESTION: Did you meet with ROSENBERG?

ANSWER: No. After meeting with ROSENBERG's representative, URALSKY and I returned to the brigade. At the brigade officers' meeting, I reported that our talks in Berlin had been successful and that we could hope that the German government would meet us halfway, allowing the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Homeland and the Russian National Army.

In December 1942, two battalions of the brigade headed by former Major of the Red Army BOCHAROV were redeployed to the region of Berezino to suppress the partisan movement, and sometime later we received an order from the commanding officer of the Central Front of the Germans, Field Marshal von KLUGE,[140] for the entire staff of the brigade to head out to the region of Velikiye Luki to take part in battles to help an encircled group of German forces. Knowing the mood of the soldiers in the brigade—that none of them had any desire to face off against Soviet forces on the front lines—BOYARSKY and I refused the order, telling the Germans that our soldiers had not yet been suitably politically prepared to carry out the operation. The Germans saw our statement as a refusal to carry out an order, with the result that BOYARSKY and I were called in to the secret field police (Geheime Feldpolizei) at headquarters, where we were arrested.

QUESTION: Your anti-Soviet activity did not end here. Tell more about your crimes.

ANSWER: Soon after the arrest, BOYARSKY and I were called in to see Colonel RONNE of the German General Headquarters, whom we told that we had made a big mistake in our actions and whom we assured that in the future we would actively continue our anti-Soviet activity.

Three weeks after this conversation, we were freed from custody. BOYARSKY was sent to work as an instructor in the volunteer battalions in the 18th German Army, and I to the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany under former commanding officer of the 2nd Strike Force Army VLASOV, who by that time was working in the division and was busy with the organization of the so-called Russian Committee.

QUESTION: How did you participate in the organization of the Russian Committee?

ANSWER: I was a member of the Russian Committee. While I was still in the RNA volunteer brigade, in December 1942, I was called to the city of Smolensk to see Colonel SHUBOT, the head of

intelligence in the rear areas of the Central Front. In conversation, SHUBOT informed me that VLASOV was organizing a Russian Committee that would take over the leadership of anti-Soviet activity among the Soviet POWs and the population of the regions of the USSR occupied by Germany, and he proposed that I join the membership of this committee and sign the address that had already been signed by VLASOV and former executive officer of the 19th Army Major General MALYSHKIN. I agreed to SHUBOT's proposal, since the creation of the Russian Committee corresponded with my anti-Soviet views and my multiple demands that the German command organize a center for the leadership of all anti-Soviet work.

QUESTION: You are being presented with the address of the Russian Committee dated 27 December, 1942. Is this the document you are referring to?

ANSWER: Yes, I am talking about this document.

QUESTION: Why is your signature not on this address by the Russian Committee?

ANSWER: The Russian Committee's address was circulated with only two signatures, those of VLASOV and MALYSHKIN. I signed the original copy of the address.

QUESTION: Who else was a member of the Russian Committee?

ANSWER: In addition to VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, and me, the membership of the party included: former staff editor of the newspaper *Izvestia* ZYKOV and former head of the Libava Naval Academy Major General of Shore Service BLAGOVECHENSKY, both of whom also worked in the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany and signed the Russian Committee's address.

After the creation of the Russian Committee, VLASOV and MALYSHKIN undertook attempts to involve other Red Army generals located in German POW camps.

In December 1942, VLASOV and MALYSHKIN spoke with former commanding officer of the 12th Army Lieutenant General PONEDELIN; former commanding officer of the 8th Rifle Corps Major General SNEGOV; former executive officer of the 3rd Guard Army Major General KRUPENNIKOV; and others whose names I do not know, all of whom refused to take part in the work of the Russian Committee and did not sign the address.

These generals, as far as VLASOV told me, would have signed the address and joined the Russian Committee if there had been a guarantee from the German government that Germany would not turn the Soviet Union into its colony.

QUESTION: Yet you and VLASOV actively attempted to turn the USSR into a German colony. Do you admit to this?

ANSWER: I do.

QUESTION: In the Russian Committee's address, it was indicated that the committee was located in the city of Smolensk. Where was the Russian Committee in fact created?

ANSWER: The Russian Committee was in fact created in Berlin. The location of the committee was indicated as the city of Smolensk in the address because it was not advantageous to show that the Russian Committee, which took on government functions, was located in German territory.

QUESTION: What anti-Soviet activity did this Russian Committee that you created at the instruction of the Germans conduct?

ANSWER: After the creation of the Russian Committee by VLASOV, first there were measures taken to assume control of the leadership of all anti-Soviet work. By arrangement with the Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, the Russian Committee was given control of the anti-Soviet newspapers *Dawn*, *Volunteer* and *Tour of Duty* [*Zarya*, *Dobrovolets* and *Boyevoi put'*]. The editor of *Dawn* at first was BLAGOVESCHENSKY, who in order to mask his identity signed himself "Engineer Blagoveschensky," and the editor of the newspaper *Tour of Duty* was ZYKOV. I was the editor of *Volunteer*.

Along with this, in order to further oral propaganda among military POWs and the civilian population living in occupied Soviet territory, the committee was given control of courses for propagandists in Wuhlheide which were later moved to Dabendorf. The head of the Dabendorf courses was BLAGOVECHENSKY in the beginning, and later it was the former executive officer of the Northwest Front, Major General TRUKHIN. Training in these courses was conducted over the course of 6–8 weeks.

Course attendees were given lectures of anti-Soviet content: "On the Establishment of New Russia," "On National-Socialism and Life in Germany," "On the Conditions in the USSR and the Necessity for the End of the Soviet Regime," and a number of

other topics that slandered the Soviet government and the Bolshevik party.

In addition, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, and I regularly traveled to the courses for propagandists and gave anti-Soviet speeches to the attendees. In our speeches, we offered insights to the course attendees on the goals and missions of the Russian Committee and called on them to actively fight against the Soviet regime.

Upon completion of the courses, the propagandists were sent to conduct anti-Soviet work in camps for military POWs, volunteer units that were under the German army, and also among the civilian population in German-occupied Soviet territory.

In April 1943 in Dabendorf, we conducted a so-called anti-Bolshevik conference. At this conference, in addition to the attendees of the courses, there were representatives of the volunteer units serving within the German army. MALYSHKIN gave a report in the name of the Russian Committee which talked about the goals of the creation of the Russian Committee and also called on those gathered at the conference to unite around the Russian Committee and energize the fight against the Soviet regime and the Bolshevik party. In February 1943, in connection with the difficulties faced by Germany at the front, and also with the goal of energizing the anti-Soviet work, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, BLAGOVECHENSKY, ZYKOV, and I wrote a memorandum addressed to the German High Command. In that memorandum, we asked the German High Command to allow the Russian Committee broader possibilities for anti-Soviet work and that we be permitted to form the Russian National Army. At the end of February 1943, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, and BLAGOVECHENSKY, and I were called in to the Rosenberg ministry for negotiations regarding that memorandum, where we had a meeting with Professor MENDE and Doctor KNIPPER, though we failed to achieve specific results.

QUESTION: How did the anti-Soviet work of the Russian Committee continue?

ANSWER: In March 1943, VLASOV published his open letter in the newspaper *Dawn* entitled "Why I Set Off on the Road to Fighting Against Bolshevism." In this letter, VLASOV slandered the past and present of the Soviet people, the leaders of the party, and the Soviet government, and also tried to prove the necessity of

fighting against the Soviet regime. In addition, in order to make the Russian Committee popular among the POWs and the civilian population living in occupied Soviet territory, VLASOV made a trip to Smolensk, Orsha, Mogilev, and the region of the city of Pskov in March-April 1943. In these cities, VLASOV attended meetings of local residents arranged by the Germans and also went to camps for military POWs and volunteer units within the German army, speaking in the name of the Russian Committee. In his speeches, VLASOV called on the civilian population and the Soviet POWs to unite around the Russian Committee to actively combat the Soviet regime.

QUESTION: For the purposes of fighting the Soviet regime, you actively took part in the formation of military units made up of POWs. Why are you hiding this?

ANSWER: In April 1943, the 6th Division of the Reich Main Security Office permitted the White émigrés IVANOV and SAKHAROV to form the so-called "Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA" from among the POWs. When they received permission for this, IVANOV and SAKHAROV turned to VLASOV, asking him to send me as an authority of the Russian Committee to help them form the brigade. In the same month, on VLASOV's orders, I traveled to the region of Pskov as a representative of the Russian Committee to the formation of the Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA.

In order to form this brigade, IVANOV, SAKHAROV, and I chose up to 500 people from the punitive brigade that was commanded by Colonel of the Red Army GIL-RODIONOV, who were later housed in Kryshova, 17 kilometers from Pskov. Before we began putting the brigade together, IVANOV and I created a plan for the formation of the brigade that was then sent for confirmation to the 6th Division of the Reich Main Security Office.

QUESTION: What exactly was this plan?

ANSWER: The plan that we put together for the formation of the Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA stipulated the training of cadres for spy, diversionary, and terrorist activity in the rear territory of the Red Army, and also for conducting intelligence on the front lines. We intended to form two regiments: a special operations regiment and a rifle regiment. The special operations regiment was to conduct agitation and propaganda within Red Army units to get them cross over to the side of the so-called Russian Liberation Army and to commit terrorist acts against

party leaders, the Soviet government, and high-ranking military officials.

We intended that the groups trained for this regiment would be dropped in the regions of Moscow, Leningrad, Kuibyshev, Sverdlovsk, Gorky, Ivanovo, and Yaroslavl in order to create an anti-Soviet underground there, penetrate Red Army units for destabilizing work, and commit acts of terror. We intended to insert up to 75 such groups, each numbering between 3 and 8 people, into Moscow over the course of two months. We also intended to train special groups to conduct intelligence work in the Red Army.

To implement these terrorist assignments, specially trained individuals had to be selected, ones who had proven themselves in anti-Soviet work. Acts of terror were planned against *Stalin*, *Molotov*, *Kaganovich*, *Beria*, *Zhukov,* and *Vasilyevsky*.

Among the activities of the special operations regiment, there was also a plan to insert diversionary groups into the regions near concentration camps and settlements of exiles in order to organize anti-Soviet demonstrations of the prisoners and exiles. The assignment of the rifle regiment of this brigade was armed conflict in individual sectors of the front to organize Red Army soldiers crossing over to the side of the Germans, the capture of valuable documents, and "languages."

QUESTION: You are being presented with a document entitled "Plan for the Formation and Training Activities of the Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA." Did you compile this plan?

ANSWER: Yes. The document presented to me entitled "Plan for the Formation and Training Activities of the Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA" was compiled by myself and the commander of this brigade, White émigré IVANOV, and was sent by us to the 6th Division of the Reich Main Security Office[141] in May 1943.

QUESTION: What was done in practice to implement this plan?

ANSWER: Some time after we had sent the plan, brigade commander IVANOV and I were called in to see the deputy head of the 6th Division of the Reich Main Security Office, Lt. Colonel of the SS Doctor GREIF. In conversation with him, IVANOV and I tried to convince GREIF that if the German command offered us full freedom of activity, then implementing the plan would meet with real success.

GREIF answered that he would report to the leadership of the Reich Main Security Office, and also proposed that we work out the plan in more detail. Two weeks after that conversation, IVANOV and I presented Doctor GREIF with request forms for uniforms, arms, equipment, monies, and documents necessary to equip the agents. In addition, we worked up several maps for the insertion of agents, created a schedule for training for drill exercises, and firing range and ideological preparation for the brigade staff. We also worked out plans to insert two groups of 3–4 people each into the rear territory of the Soviet Union. The intended leader of one of the groups to be inserted into the rear territory of the Soviet Union was former Lt. Colonel of the Red Army BOCHAROV Aleksei, and the head of the other group was former Major of the Red Army GRACHEV Ivan Alekseevich.

QUESTION: What was the assignment for these groups that would be inserted into the rear territory of the Soviet Union?

ANSWER: Both of these groups were intended to be inserted in Moscow for terrorism, diversionary acts, and intelligence-gathering. In addition, the plan for the group led by BOCHAROV included the kidnapping of Rokossovsky[142] with the intention of getting him to take on the leadership of the Russian Liberation Army.

I explained the motivation for our plan to kidnap Rokossovsky to the Germans by saying that he had previously been arrested by the agencies of the Soviet regime, and due to this he was dissatisfied with the Soviet government.

I should note that Doctor GREIF was very interested in the person of Rokossovsky and my presentation of the plan to him. He asked me whether there was anyone among the Soviet POWs in the hands of the Germans who might be able to be inserted into the Soviet rear territory and try to make Rokosskovsky an offer to cooperate with the Germans. I told GREIF that there was one former colonel of the Red Army working in the headquarters of the volunteer forces who knew Rokossovsky well: TARASOV. As far as I know, sometime later, TARASOV wrote an open letter to Rokossovsky on the order of the Germans, calling on him to act against the Soviet regime and come over to the German side.

QUESTION: Did the Germans accept your plan?

ANSWER: No. The Germans did not give us anything that IVANOV had asked for from GREIF for intelligence work according to the plan we had worked out, and in essence, this put

an end to making plans for training the Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA and plans to insert two diversionary terrorist groups into the rear territory of the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: You are deliberately protecting terrorists. Tell us who you inserted into the Soviet Union in order to commit terrorist acts.

ANSWER: I am telling the truth. I did not insert a single agent to commit diversionary or terrorist acts, or even with other goals, into the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: Did VLASOV know that you were training terrorists?

ANSWER: VLASOV knew about this. In July 1943, I returned to Berlin and told VLASOV of the plan that I had given to the 6th Division of the Reich Main Security Office of Germany. VLASOV was approving of my projects.

QUESTION: Did VLASOV himself handle the question of preparation of terrorist acts?

ANSWER: VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, and I accepted terror as one of the most dynamic methods of fighting against the government of the Soviet Union, but we did not have the possibility to implement our terrorist intentions in practice. After I returned to Berlin, I put the question of providing us with broader possibilities for anti-Soviet work to the Germans.

To this end, I wrote a memorandum to HIMMLER in which I tried to prove the necessity of moving all anti-Soviet formations located in Germany and the occupied territories under the direct leadership of VLASOV and the Russian Committee.

QUESTION: What did HIMMLER answer in response to your memorandum?

ANSWER: I did not receive any answer from HIMMLER. Until February 1943, I continued to work in the Military Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany, where I edited the anti-Soviet newspaper *Volunteer*.

At the end of 1943, as there had been an increase in the number of cases where military units formed from POWs surrendered to the Soviet forces when confronted by the Red Army, the Germans decided to redeploy them to France, Holland, Denmark, Belgium, and Northern Italy, thus freeing up German units along the Atlantic coast that could be sent to the Eastern Front. In moving the volunteer forces from the Eastern Front to the west, in February 1944, the commanding officer of the Western

Front, Field Marshal RUNSTEDT, proposed that I travel to the volunteer units and conduct work to lift their morale among them. In February 1944, I went out to the Atlantic coast, where I visited 15 volunteer battalions. In each of them, I gave reports in which I talked about the fact that the volunteer units were located only temporarily in the west and that during that period they should improve their military skills and cohesiveness in order to quickly return to the Eastern front to carry out the main mission—the fight against the Soviet regime.

In addition, I gave a report on the courses for propagandists in Dabendorf, where I shed light on the general situation at the front, speaking about the fact that the German government was taking measures to once again strike a great blow on the Eastern Front. The volunteer forces that were in the West were also training for that strike, and that strike would be decisive and would bring complete victory over the Bolsheviks. My report was published in the newspaper *Volunteer*.

When I returned to Berlin, I wrote a memorandum on my trip to the commanding officer of the so-called "volunteer" forces, General KÖSTRING and to the commanding officer of the Western Front, Field Marshal RUNSTEDT. In this memorandum, I wrote that if the German command did not take measures to reorganize the volunteer forces, then these forces could not be considered reliable. As an example of practical measures, I suggested returning Russian officers to the volunteer battalions that had been taken away by the Germans, and transferring the command and leadership of these battalions to VLASOV.

In May 1944, I had a conversation with VLASOV about anti-Soviet work.

QUESTION: What agreement did you come to with VLASOV?

ANSWER: At that conversation with VLASOV, besides myself, two representatives of the Military Propaganda Division of the Armed Forces of Germany were present: Captain STRIKFELD and Captain DELINGSHAUSEN. During that meeting, VLASOV told me that it behooved us to prove to the German command that our fight against the Soviet regime had support in the ranks of the Red Army and the Soviet people and that the future work of the Russian Committee and the creation of the Russian Liberation Army depended on that decision. After

that conversation, I was presented by STRIKFELD to a person HIMMLER trusted, Colonel of the SS D'ALQUEN.

In the presence of STRIKFELD and other German representatives whose names I do not remember, D'ALQUEN told me that if we could, in a difficult moment for the German army, prove to the German command through our work that our ideas were supported at the front by the Red Army, then he could promise to provide us with broad possibilities for the work of the Russian Committee and VLASOV.

After that conversation, on 13 June, 1944, a group of propagandists and I left on VLASOVs orders for the region of Lvov, where HIMMLER's special propaganda headquarters, named Scorpion, was located, the head of which was the same D'ALQUEN. In the area around Lvov, I organized the publication of the anti-Soviet newspaper For Peace and Freedom [*Za mir i svobodu*], which was distributed on the front and in the rear areas of the Red Army.

At the end of June 1944, D'ALQUEN, citing the example of the German general SAYDLITZ, who read an open letter against HITLER, suggested that I write an open letter of my own to some individual from the Soviet command in order to compromise him in the eyes of the agencies of the Soviet regime. D'ALCAIN also told me that if my performance was successful, it would be the best proof of the seriousness of our intentions to fight to the end against the Soviet regime, and the fact of this performance could play a decisive role in HITLER's considerations of the question of whether or not to provide us with more opportunity for our work. After this, I wrote a provocative and slanderous document entitled "Open Letter to Member of the Army Military Council ZAPOROZHETS,"[143] of which 10 million copies were printed and distributed at the front. In this letter, I slandered Marshal ZHUKOV, ZAPOROZHETS and the Red Army.

In July 1944, due to the advance of the forces of the 1st Ukrainian Front, I was forced to return to Berlin with my group of propagandists. However, through the activity of my propaganda group and anti-Soviet documents that were written, I managed to convince D'ALQUEN that if the German command allowed the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which would unite all anti-Bolshevik forces, and if that committee was allowed to form the Russian Liberation Army, then in spite of the difficult situation at the front, German success

would be guaranteed. In this spirit I wrote a memorandum that D'ALQUEN promised to report to HIMMLER. A few days later, D'ALQUEN informed me that HIMMLER had agreed to conduct negotiations with VLASOV.

QUESTION: Did the meeting between VLASOV and HIMMLER take place?

ANSWER: Yes, it took place. On 17 September, 1944, HIMMLER received VLASOV at his field apartment. During that meeting, HIMMLER told VLASOV that he was taking on responsibility for the "Russian question" and therefore in the future VLASOV should arrange his activities not through the representatives of the High Command of the Armed Forces of Germany, but only through the administration of the SS. Then HIMMLER appointed a personal representative to VLASOV, Oberführer of the SS KRÜGER, and ordered VLASOV to unite all anti-Soviet organizations presently under the protection of the Germans and create the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. Along with this, to start with, HIMMLER allowed VLASOV to form three divisions, which the Germans promised to arm and supply with uniforms and equipment. At that meeting, it was also decided that unit formation would be achieved with forces from KAMINSKY's punitive brigade, the "volunteer" battalions, and POWs. After HIMMLER and VLASOV's meeting and the announcement of it in the German press and on the radio, we began to organize the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

QUESTION: What preparations were made for the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia?

ANSWER: Throughout September-October 1944, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, former Major General of the Red Army ZAKUTNY, who had come over to us from the German Ministry of Propaganda, and I set to work on the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia. First it was decided that the size of the committee membership should be 71 members and 20 candidates for membership. The Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia was selected with the consideration that it should include representatives of various ethnic groups living in the USSR, as well as representatives from the military, the workers, the intelligentsia, and the White émigré community who had proven themselves through their anti-Soviet work.

The list of the committee members was compiled by MALYSHKIN and the candidates for membership in the committee from among the intelligentsia were selected by ZAKUTNY, from the military by TRUKHIN, and VLASOV and I put forth a number of candidates from the White émigré community. When the candidates for membership had been discussed by myself, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, the White émigrés brought in for this work (RUDNEV and BALABIN), and Professor BOGATYRCHUK, who had escaped from Kiev, the list was then presented to HIMMLER for confirmation.

As far as I remember, at HIMMLER's insistence, four or five names were removed as undesirable to the Germans. In total, 51 people were chosen by us. At the same time that this work was being completed, the manifesto of the committee was being put together.

QUESTION: Who personally participated in putting together the manifesto?

ANSWER: I put together a draft of the manifesto. In addition, I pulled in the White émigré KAZANTSEV to work on the project, as well as *Dawn* newspaper correspondent KOVALCHUK and former research associate and instructor of the Dabendorf courses ZAITSEV.

After the draft of the manifesto had been compiled, it was discussed more than once at meetings that were attended by myself, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, and many other individuals brought in for that job. After discussing the manifesto and introducing a number of changes, it was sent for approval to HIMMLER, who also made some changes before the manifesto was finished in the form in which it would be published.

QUESTION: You are being presented with the Manifesto of CLPR, published in the anti-Soviet newspaper *Will of the People* of 15 November, 1944. Is this the document that you are referring to?

ANSWER: Yes, it is.

QUESTION: In the manifesto, it is indicated that the names of several of the members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia were not published due to the fact that they were located in the territory of the USSR. Name your supporters located in the Soviet Union.

ANSWER: The point that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia supposedly had members in the rear territories of the Soviet Union was introduced into the manifesto at my suggestion in order to give more authority to the committee in the eyes of the Germans. I should say that VLASOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, and I assured the Germans more than once that we had people of like mind in the Red Army that supposedly supported our move against the Soviet regime, but in reality none of us could give a single name.

QUESTION: You are concealing the criminal connections you have in the Soviet Union. Name your supporters.

ANSWER: I am telling the truth. I have no supporters in the Soviet Union. After the preliminary work was completed, it was decided to call an inaugural session of the committee. I suggested that we hold this session in the Czechoslovakian capital of Prague, explaining that it did not make sense to hold the session on German territory, since that would lower any authority that the committee had. I calculated that this would mask the fact that the committee had been created by the Germans on HIMMLER's orders.

On 14 November, 1944, in the building of the Prague palace, we held the inaugural session of the committee, at which, in addition to the membership of the committee, more than 200 guests were present: POWs, White émigrés, and also Germans.

The committee session was opened by the oldest member of the committee, White émigré Professor RUDNEV. After RUDNEV's brief welcome speech there were congratulatory speeches from the German command given by leader of the Protectorate of Czechia and Moravia FRANK and the State-Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Germany LORENS. In their speeches, FRANK and LORENS congratulated those present on the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and announced that they saw the committee as a reliable ally of Germany in the fight against a common enemy— the Soviet regime and the Red Army.

After FRANK and LORENS, VLASOV gave a short speech. In his speech, VLASOV said that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia had been created for the fight against the Soviet regime and Bolshevism, talked about the missions that were before the committee, thanked the German command for the help they had offered to the committee, and then read the

manifesto aloud. After the reading of the manifesto, it was unanimously confirmed and signed by members of the committee. After that, the presidium of the committee was elected.

QUESTION: Who was in the presidium of the committee?

ANSWER: Elected to the presidium of the committee were myself, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, White émigré Professor RUDNEV, White émigré former Lieutenant General of the Cossack Forces BALABIN, émigré Professor Ivanov, instructor from Minsk BUDZILOVICH, and journalist from Kiev MUZYCHENKO.

On 18 November, 1944, after the Prague session of the committee to create the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, on my suggestion we held a ceremonial session of the entire membership of the committee in Berlin, to which we invited up to 1,500 guests from among the Soviet citizens brought to Germany by the Germans, POWs, and White émigrés.

QUESTION: What issues were discussed at this session of the committee?

ANSWER: I opened the ceremonial session of the committee held in Berlin. At this session, VLASOV spoke, presenting the agenda. In his speech, VLASOV indicated that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia had been created in order to unite all Russian people and in alliance with the Germans wage a fight against the Soviet regime. At the end of his speech, VLASOV called on all present at that session to unite around the committee and energetically conduct anti-Soviet work. After VLASOV's speech, the proceedings included speeches from various representatives. Specifically, from the volunteers at the front there was BOBROV-GOLUBOVSKY, from the Ukrainians there was MUZYCHENKO, and from the Orthodox Church there was the priest KISELEV, along with others whose names I do not remember.

In their speeches, these orators greeted the committee and called on all present to unite around the committee for the fight against the existing order in the Soviet Union and the creation of "New Russia." After the creation of CLPR and the publication of its manifesto, a number of institutions were created for the leadership of anti-Soviet work.

QUESTION: What institutions were created by CLPR?

ANSWER: Under the committee, four main administrations were created.

The headquarters of the armed forces of CLPR, with TRUKHIN as executive officer and also serving as VLASOV's deputy for the leadership of the armed forces of CLPR.

The main Organizational Administration was headed by MALYSHKIN and had the mission of carrying out all the committee's decisions, organizing various institutions under the committee, and providing administrative and financial services for members of the committee, as well as intelligence and counterintelligence, including providing security for members of the committee.

In order to carry out these missions were formed: a secretariat under the Organizational Administration (the head of that secretariat was the émigré LEVITSKY); an academic council the chair of which was Professor MOSKVITINOV; the Security Division which was first led by former Major of the Red Army KALUGIN, and by then former Major of the Red Army TENZOROV; the Financial Department headed by Professor ANDREEV; and the Legal Department, though I do not remember who was the head of that.

The Civil Affairs Administration was headed by ZAKUTNY. The mission of this administration included conducting anti-Soviet work among the Soviet citizens taken to Germany by the Germans and among the White émigrés.

In order to implement this mission, ZAKUTNY created under the Civil Affairs Administration a network of people authorized by the administration and sent to conduct anti-Soviet work among the Soviet citizens held in civilian camps located in various cities of Germany, and also selected anti-Soviet personnel for the civilian agencies on the territory of the USSR in the event of a German victory.

I was the head of the Propaganda Administration. The mission of this administration included the organization of all types of anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda within the units of the RLA, camps for POWs and eastern workers, and also at the front and in the rear of the Red Army. To implement this mission, the Germans transferred control of two anti-Soviet newspapers previously published by the Germans—Will of the People [*Volya naroda*] and Dawn [*Zarya*], which began to be published under the title For the Homeland [*Za rodinu*]—to the administration. In December 1944, both newspapers achieved runs of 400,000 copies. In addition, the Germans gave the administration control of the

radio station that was previously under the Jumneta agency, and with that we were able to broadcast anti-Soviet programs from Warsaw and Koningsberg.

QUESTION: What departments were created under the Propaganda Administration?

ANSWER: The following departments were under the Propaganda Administration:

The Organization and Methodology Department, headed by SHTIFANOV. This department led the courses for propagandists in Dabendorf, and they also organized courses for civilian propagandists in Karlsbad and Berlin. The courses for propagandists in Berlin produced 50 people, who were then sent to conduct anti-Soviet propaganda in camps for eastern workers.

The Department for Work at the Front and in the Rear of the Red Army was headed by former Captain of the Red Army ZALEVSKY. This department was responsible for the distribution of various anti-Soviet leaflets at the front and in the rear of the Red Army.

Specifically, this department printed and distributed at the front and in the rear of the Red Army up to 50 million copies of the manifesto, various anti-Soviet leaflets, and photographs of the committee's activity. In addition, this department created a number of propaganda units that were intended to give anti-Soviet talks directly at the front during combat operations of RLA forces.

The Radio Department was headed by former actor of the Moscow Art Theater (MKhAT) BOLKHOVSKY, alias SVERCHKOV. The mission of this department included conducting anti-Soviet agitation by radio.

This department controlled a Russian radio station from the Jumneta agency, through which anti-Soviet speeches from the members of the committee were broadcast. In addition, the Radio Department created three traveling groups, each between 4 and 8 people, who gave anti-Soviet speeches on the radio stations at the German front lines.

The Print Department was headed by MUZYCHENKO. This department was responsible for publishing anti-Soviet newspapers and various other anti-Soviet literature.

The Department for Work among Prisoners of War was headed by former Colonel of the Red Army SPIRIDONOV. This department was responsible for anti-Soviet propaganda among

POWs through a network of propagandists within the camps for POWs.

The Information Department was headed by former Sr. Lieutenant of the Red Army KOVALCHUK. The duties of this department included informing the print press about the activity of the committee and its agencies.

The Department for Work in the Units of the RLA was headed at first by former Colonel of the Red Army MEANDROV, and later by SPIRIDONOV. This department was responsible for anti-Soviet propaganda among the troops of the RLA.

The Department of Culture and Art was headed by White émigré NOVOSELTSEV.

QUESTION: Which military units did the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia form to fight against the Red Army?

ANSWER: After the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, the headquarters of the armed forces of the committee, under the leadership of TRUKHIN and VLASOV, set to forming three divisions.

The first division was commanded by former Colonel of the Red Army BUNYACHENKO and executive officer of the division former Major of the Red Army NIKOLAEV. This division was made up of various anti-Soviet units that were already fighting with weapons against the Red Army or the partisans. The main component of the first division was KAMINSKY's punitive brigade, previously under the command of the SS. The officer staff of the division was put together mainly from former Red Army officers who had studied in the Dabendorf school for propagandists.

The first division was completely put together and armed by March 1945.

The second division was commanded by former Colonel of the Red Army ZVEREV. This division was assembled mainly from POWs. The personnel of the division was fully assembled, but they were not fully armed.

The third division had former Major General of the Red Army SHAPOVALOV appointed as its head. This division was not fully formed, with only the headquarters and officer staff selected.

An RLA officers' school was organized in which up to 800 cadets were trained. At first, the head of the school was former

Colonel of the Red Army KOIDA, and later it was MEANDROV. There was also a reserve brigade commanded by KOIDA that numbered 1,200–1,500 people.

From the personnel of these divisions, two cleaning squads of 300 people each were formed, which were armed with automatic rifles and Panzerfausts.

There was also a unit formed under the command of White émigré SAKHAROV. This unit was made up of two volunteer battalions redeployed from Denmark, and also a cleaning unit created by SAKHAROV on the special order of VLASOV. This group consisted of 50 select soldiers and officers, mainly from VLASOV's personal guard and intended to conduct flashy diversionary operations against the Red Army on the Oder River.

Through the actions of this group, VLASOV promised to show the Germans how to fight against the Red Army's tanks and that the Vlasov soldiers were adept at doing so.

In the region of Marienbad in the Czech Sudeten, an aviation unit of the RLA was formed, commanded by committee member and former Colonel of the Red Army MALTSEV. The air force of the RLA was made up of several outdated types of planes and an assault aviation regiment numbering up to three thousand people.

In addition, in April 1945, by arrangement with HIMMLER's deputy BERGER, the so-called Cossack forces were to be transferred to the command of the headquarters of the CLPR air force. These forces consisted of four regiments deployed in Northern Italy and a Cossack corps commanded by German General von PANVITZ. The transfer of these troops to the command of the headquarters of CLPR did not take place due to Germany's defeat.

QUESTION: Which RLA units participated in combat action against the Red Army?

ANSWER: At the end of March 1945, at the part of the front in the region of Stettin-Kestrin, SAKHAROV's unit was operating on VLASOV's orders. For their participation in battles against the Red Army, SAKHAROV and the entire personnel of his unit were awarded Iron Crosses by the Germans and a regiment was formed on the base of that unit.

At the end of March 1945, on the orders of the German command, the first division was redeployed to the Eastern Front in the region of the Oder River to the south of Kestrin. The division managed the defenses of a 5–6-kilometer stretch of the

front and forces from two battalions and the artillery regiment, with the support of tanks, led an advance against a Red Army operations base on the western bank of the Oder River.

The second and third divisions did not participate in battles against the Red Army, with the exception of the cleaning units that operated in SAKHAROV's regiment.

QUESTION: Earlier you testified that the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia was involved in intelligence and counterintelligence work. How was that work organized?

ANSWER: The intelligence activity of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia was carried out by two bodies—the Intelligence Division under the army headquarters and the Security Division under the Organizational Administration. The Military Intelligence Division of the headquarters of CLPR was headed by former Major of the Red Army GRACHEV and the Security Division under the Organizational Administration was headed by TENZOROV. The Military Intelligence Division answered directly to the executive officer of the RLA, TRUKHIN, and the Security Division to the head of the Operational Administration, MALYSHKIN.

The Intelligence Division of the Army Headquarters had a school for intelligence agents which was led by White émigré IVANOV. This school was at first located in Bratislava, and later in Vienna, and up to 300 people were training in it. Not a single graduation of a class of agents from that school took place. In addition, this division conducted individual preparation of agents. Specifically, they trained 20 agents. As far as I know, these agents were not inserted into the rear areas of the Soviet Union.

The Security Division also had a school for agents that was located in the region of Marienbad and headed by former Major of the Red Army KALUGIN. This school trained 15 agents in April 1945. Whether these agents were inserted into the rear area of the Soviet Union or not, I am not aware, but I assume they were not, since by that time the situation at the front would not have allowed it to happen.

In addition, the Security Division conducted counterintelligence work through a network of secret agents that had the mission of unearthing individuals supportive of the Soviets and all other types of groups hostile to us within RLA units and committee institutions.

QUESTION: What other anti-Soviet work did you conduct as a member of the presidium of CLPR?

ANSWER: On 7 January, 1945, at the invitation of the president of the Slovak Republic TISSO, I traveled to Bratislava, where I gave two public anti-Soviet speeches. The first was at an extended session of the Slovak-German Friendship Club and the second was at a meeting of Soviet citizens taken by the Germans from the occupied territories of the USSR and White émigrés living in Bratislava.

In my speeches, I explained the missions of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and called on all present at my speeches and all Slavic peoples to unite around the committee for the armed fight against the Soviet regime.

After these speeches, on 8 January, 1945, I was received by the president of the Slovak Republic, TISSO. In conversation, TISSO told me that the sympathies of his government and his people were on the side of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

On 9 January, 1945, I had a conversation with correspondents of the Slovak press, to whom I gave an interview about the activity of the committee.

On 18 March, I spoke at a meeting of Soviet citizens driven from the occupied territories of the USSR and White émigrés living in Vienna, which was attended by up to 1,500 people.

QUESTION: You are being shown a photograph card on which there is a photograph of you taken during one of your speeches. Is this the speech you are referring to?

ANSWER: Yes. On the photograph card shown to me, there is an image of when I spoke on 18 March 1945 in Vienna. At that meeting, I read the manifesto of the committee and assured all those present at the meeting that in spite of the difficulties at the front, the upcoming fight would bring the committee success and the existing order in the Soviet Union would be overthrown.

QUESTION: Which leaders of the German government did you meet with?

ANSWER: In March 1945, VLASOV and I had a meeting with GOEBBELS, who asked why the German propaganda was not having more success among the Russians. I answered that propaganda against the Soviet regime needed to be conducted by Russians and then it would be effective. Learning from us that the committee did not have sufficient resources for conducting

propaganda, GOEBBELS promised to give us practical aid in that area.

QUESTION: We know that you conducted negotiations with the leaders of the White guard and the nationalist organizations about unifying for the fight against the Soviet regime. With whom did you personally speak?

ANSWER: In December 1944, at the instructions of VLASOV, I had a meeting with the leader of the Organization for Ukrainian Nationalists, BANDERA. To my offer to join the committee, BANDERA [sic] replied that Russians had been and remained the enemy of Ukraine; they brought Bolshevism to Ukraine, and therefore he did not want anything to do with Moscow types.

In addition, at the suggestion of the White émigré member of the committee, KAZANTSEV, I had planned to contact the White émigré organizations in Manchuria. However, nothing came of this, since the individuals that I had chosen to be inserted in Manchuria—KOVALCHUK, KHARCHEV and two others whose names I do not remember—could not get there due to the situation at the front and the move of the committee from Berlin to Karlsbad.

QUESTION: When did the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia move to Karlsbad?

ANSWER: With the advance of the front to the Oder River, the situation in Berlin became alarming, and members of the committee began to express quite sharply their desire to leave Berlin. In March 1945, the committee fled to Karlsbad in great haste, leaving behind in Berlin only a small group of officials in my administration who continued to publish the newspapers *Will of the People* and *For the Homeland*. Somewhat later, the headquarters of the armed forces of CLPR left Berlin for Münsingen.

With the approach of the front toward Karlsbad, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, TRUKHIN, and I began to discuss the problem of what to do next. It was decided to leave for the south of Germany and get farther away from the Soviet zone, since we surmised that this area would be occupied by the Americans.

QUESTION: Did you intend to continue to fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: Yes, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and I made plans for continuing the fight against the Soviet Union.

QUESTION: What exactly were your plans for continuing the fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: At my suggestion, VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, and ZAKUTNY made the decision to move the main core of the committee to one of the southern regions of Germany, between Innsbruck and Salzburg. I explained this proposal by saying that it was a mountainous region, the Soviet troops would not get that far, and all the Russian refugees that would be leaving Austria and Central Germany would be moving through there. In this way, the region would be the most advantageous, and these people passing through could be organized and influenced not to return to the Soviet Union and instead to join our committee.

My proposal was supported by MALYSHKIN, who agreed that it would be possible to gather all the strength of the committee in the southern region of Germany, move the first and second divisions there, take over a gorge in the Tyrol mountains, and begin negotiations with the Americans. VLASOV agreed with our proposal.

On 16 April, 1945, the leadership of the committee and the German representatives left for the region of the city of Füssen, which we chose as the place for further activity. On 17 April, the committee continued its escape from the Red Army, moving to Füssen, where I met with VLASOV on 18 April. Consulting with one another, VLASOV and I decided to send MALYSHKIN to the Americans and in the name of the committee conduct negotiations on offering asylum to the RLA and the committee. With this goal, it was decided to send ZAKUTNY as well. On 19 April, 1945, VLASOV and I, along with KRÜGER, left for the headquarters of the armed forces of CLPR, which was located at that point in a marsh in the direction of Salzburg. At the headquarters, we met TRUKHIN, BOYARSKY, and SHAPOVALOV. At the meeting that VLASOV led with the leading officials of the headquarters, VLASOV confirmed his previous order to concentrate the RLA forces in the region to the east of Salzburg, where they were already headed on foot.

That same day, VLASOV and I returned to Füssen, where we met the representative of the volunteer Cossack forces located in Northern Italy, former Major of the Red Army KONONOV, who asked VLASOV to send me to these troops as an authority from the committee in order that we might take control of them.

At the meeting in Füssen, attended by VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, BOYARSKY, ZAKUTNY, and me, it was decided that the committee should evacuate further into the hills, and I was sent to the north of Italy to the Cossack troops to take them under our influence, to create one of the centers of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia in the region of the city of Trieste, and also to establish contact with the commanding officer of the English forces in Italy, Marshal ALEXANDER.

On 23–24 April, 1945, I left Füssen with a group of officials of the committee and a company from VLASOV's guard. Some 35 kilometers from Füssen, in the village of Lermos, I made a stop. Here I met with VLASOV for the last time. During this meeting, VLASOV confirmed the authority he had previously given me and indicated that I should act on site with consideration for the circumstances. VLASOV then told me that he was going to the first division and would try by all means to pull them to the south to unite with the second and third divisions.

Then, in my presence, VLASOV gave committee member ZHEREBKOV an assignment to go to Switzerland and prepare asylum for the committee. The day after VLASOV's departure for the first division, which was at that time on a march in Prague, on 29 April, 1945, a group of officials from the committee, VLASOV's guard, and I, together with the German representatives Lt. Colonel of the SS BUCHART and Major of the SS SIVERS, left for the south, for the region of Innsbruck. In the area of Innsbruck, BUCHART and SIVERS told me that it was impossible to get to Italy in that area—the road was impassable since the front was located in immediate proximity—and suggested that I get to Italy through the mountain valley of Zillertal.

On 1 May, 1945, in the mountain valley of Zillertal near the village of Mayrhofen, I made a stop, since further movement could only be achieved on foot through the mountain paths. Having stopped in the village of Mayrhofen, I sent a group led by White émigré VOLF to Italy for talks with the commanding officer of the English Army in Italy, Marshal ALEXANDER.

On 3 May, 1945, forward American tank units arrived in Mayrhofen. I sent former Major of the Red Army RIL, who at the time was filling in as executive officer, to meet the Americans, and he met with an American officer and had a brief conversation with him.

As RIL reported to me, the American officer met him in a friendly way, but he made no statements as to how the Americans would treat us. On 6 May, 1945, I ordered the RLA soldiers and officers located with me to put down their weapons. Before a formation of officers and soldiers numbering around 150 people, I gave a short speech. In my speech, I stated that our fight against the Soviet regime was not over, that in this fight surely the Americans and the English would support us, and that they were free and could make their own arrangements while waiting for a new call from the committee.

After this, I supplied each soldier and officer with 10 days of rations and released them, retaining only former Major of the Red Army RIL, former Major of the Red Army KHITROVO, former Sr. Lieutenant of the Red Army, guard company commander SHULGA, my adjutant (former Captain of the Navy KAVERIN), former technician of the Red Army KOVALCHUK, former Sr. Lieutenant of the Red Army TURCHIN, and another 5 or 6 officers and 15 soldiers whose names I do not remember.

I should say that on the way to Mayrhofen I had already left representatives at various points to talk to the Americans. The following groups were left by me: in Lermos, a group with the White émigré VETROV; in a town whose name I cannot remember but which was located 30 kilometers to the south of Lermos, a group with the former Lt. Colonel of the Red Army KARPOV; in the town of Kalbenbach and in the valley of Zillertal were the groups of Professor ANDREEV, White émigré General POLOZOV, former Lieutenant of the Red Army KHARCHEV, White émigré YURKOVSKY, and former Captain of the Red Army SAMYGIN.

After dispersing the column on 7 May, 1945 in the region of Mayrhofen, I established contact with representatives of the temporary Austrian government SHMITKER and MAREK and began negotiations with them.

QUESTION: What arrangement did you come to with these representatives?

ANSWER: SHMITKER and MAREK told me that the temporary Austrian government was anti-Soviet and had the support of the Americans, and that the committee and the RLA could count on the support of that government. On 11 May, 1945, on the advice of SHMITKER and MAREK, I moved with my group from the village of Finkelberg, where we had been, to the

town of Ginsling, located in the mountains 8 kilometers from Mayrhofen. On 16 May, 1945, I sent RIL to the headquarters of the American base located in Mayrhofen for negotiations with the American command, which he asked to take us under their protection and provide the committee with asylum. In the headquarters of the American unit, RIL was received by an American colonel whose name I do not know, and he said that he would report about this to his command.

On 18 May, 1945, MAREK informed me that an American general whose name he did not give intended to conduct negotiations with me. That very same day, I met with this general in the building of the burgomaster of the town of Mayrhofen and told him that I had come from General VLASOV, indicated the region where Vlasov's troops might be located, and asked him to take us under the protection of the American forces and not to give us to the Soviet command. The American general answered me that he was not authorized to conduct political negotiations, but that he could send me to the headquarters of the 7th American Army, where I could clear up all the questions I had. After some time, we were taken to the American camp in the city of Augsburg, where RIL and I were detained.

QUESTION: What else did you do in order to implement your plans to fight against the Soviet regime?

ANSWER: Several days after my arrival in Augsburg, a representative of the headquarters of the 7th American Army, Sr. Lieutenant STUART, came up to me. I told STUART that I was a representative of VLASOV and asked him to arrange a meeting for me with a more senior representative of the American command. STUART did not answer me and left.

On 26 May, 1945 in Augsburg, I met MALYSHKIN, who informed me that he had had a conversation with the commanding officer of the 7th American Army, General PATCH, who also told him that he was not authorized to conduct any kind of political negotiations and that our question could be decided only by the U.S. government.

After consulting with MALYSHKIN, we decided to act together. We therefore composed a document in both of our names in which we expressed our hope that the Americans would not hand us over to the Soviet command and offered our services to American intelligence regarding whatever information about the Soviet Union that might interest them.

QUESTION: Did American intelligence accept your offer?

ANSWER: Yes. On 2 October, 1945, MALYSHKIN, RIL, and I, and some others held with us—former head of artillery for a rifle division Colonel KARDAKOV; former assistant to the head of intelligence for the headquarters of the 19th Army St. Lt. LAPIN; and former official of the Northern Fleet Captain DENISOV—were taken to the American intelligence camp in the city of Oberrusel, 18 kilometers from Frankfurt-on-Main, where we were housed in a separate villa called Florida.

On 13 November, 1945, American intelligence officer SANDERS came to see us and began calling us in for one-on-one conversations. The first called was MALYSHKIN, then myself. In conversation with me, SANDERS clarified who exactly our group was and then offered to have us work with American intelligence and give them information on the Soviet Union. As it later became clear, SANDERS had roughly the same conversation with MALYSHKIN, RIL, LAPIN, DENISOV, and KARDAKOV, all of whom also agreed to work for American intelligence.

Discussing it among ourselves, we decided to write the Americans a statement on questions that might interest them.

QUESTION: What information did you give American intelligence?

ANSWER: At the suggestion of SANDERS, I wrote a detailed report titled "On the Post-War Policies of Stalin," and in it slandered both the domestic and foreign policies of the Soviet government. I wrote that the Soviet Union, in spite of its peaceful reassurances, would be preparing for a new war—would create a strong army, prepare an officer corps and train soldiers, and grow the Red Army into a force of up to eight million people. Trying to sow doubt with the Americans as to the Soviet Union's post-war policies, I indicated that the All-Union Communist Party had not and would not retreat from any of its political principles—that Stalin's teachings about the party had always foreseen a change in tactics depending on what was happening in a given time period, but these unchanging principles of the communist agenda would always be preserved.

Regarding the activity of the Comintern, I wrote that the Comintern would be liquidated as a foil to control world opinion.[144] I wrote that it was known to me that Stalin spoke unflatteringly about the activity of the Comintern and said that a lot of people with nothing to do were just sitting around in the

Comintern's huge apparatus. Here I indicated that the apparatus of the Comintern before the war was more than four thousand officials.

I also wrote that in practice, the leader of the Comintern had always been Stalin—that Dimitrov was just a decorative figure. In this memorandum, I indicated that the functions of the Comintern would now be carried out by the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of the Bolsheviks. Specifically, the leadership for the selection of personnel would be taken over by the Personnel Administration of the party's Central Committee and the leadership of political education would be managed by the Propaganda Administration of the Central Committee.

Concerning questions of Soviet foreign policy, I wrote that the Soviet Union, more than any other country, was interested in the preservation of peace, but that in no way meant that the Soviet Union would step back from its communist agenda.

As far as Poland went, I wrote that the Soviet Union would in no way retreat from its position in Poland and that elements of opposition that existed in Poland would soon be liquidated.

As for the situation in Germany, I wrote that the appropriate Soviet agencies would conduct a thorough cleansing of the territory of Germany of any Nazi elements, and that their mission would be to attract to the side of the Soviet Union the sympathies of the majority of Germans, even if they needed to repress 8–10% of the population to achieve that.

In this memorandum, I also wrote that any diplomatic statements or participation of the Soviet Union in international organizations were just out of necessity and the real policies of the Soviet Union were far from corresponding to its official statements.

In addition to that memo, in December 1945, at the request of SANDERS, I wrote a slanderous fact sheet about *Poskrebyshchev*,[145] *Beria*, *Zhukov,* and *Rokossovsky*.

That is all that I informed the Americans.

QUESTION: About what did MALYSHKIN, KARDAKOV, LAPIN, RIL and DENISOV inform American intelligence?

ANSWER: MALYSHKIN wrote a memorandum for American intelligence on the question of training the officer corps of the Red Army, listing all the military academies, their locations, and the nature of the specialists they trained. At the suggestion of SANDERS, MALYSHKIN wrote a report on the academy of the

General Headquarters of the Red Army. In this report, MALYSHKIN gave information on the curriculum of the academy, named the instructors and department heads, and also gave information on the turnover capabilities of the academy. In addition, MALYSHKIN wrote a report on issues of mobilization in the Red Army and a biographical fact sheet on *Konev*.

KARDAKOV wrote a whole host of different reports on artillery in the Red Army, the organization of training for officers and enlisted personnel in artillery units, and the construction of individual types of artillery armaments.

RIL wrote a report on the organization of border intelligence in the Red Army and officer training in the Frunze Academy. LAPIN wrote a report on the organization of border intelligence in the Far East, where he had served previously, in peacetime. DENISOV wrote a report on the Soviet Navy and gave the Americans detailed information on the naval bases in Vladivostok, Murmansk, and Arkhangelsk.

On 7 January, 1946, our group, consisting of MALYSHKIN, KARDAKOV, RIL, LAPIN, DENISOV, and myself, was moved to another villa on the territory of the same camp with a separate fence, and on the facade of the house they hung a sign that this house was the location of the infirmary of the 17th closed camp.

On 7 February, 1946, an American intelligence officer, Sr. Lt. Maksim, came to us Sr. Lt. Maksim, and proposed that our group undergo a medical examination, which we did in pairs. I went together with LAPIN, MALYSHKIN went with KARDAKOV, and DENISOV with RIL. During the examination, Maksim offered LAPIN and me the chance to escape from the camp, and he said to us that American intelligence would provide us with all necessary papers, provisions, and money. We agreed to Maksim's proposal.

A few days after this conversation, I was called in to see Maksim again. This time he told me that our escape from camp would happen in a different way—that I should go to Munich and set myself up there under the name of MAKSIMOV. After that, Maksim asked me what possibilities I had for spy work in the Soviet Union. I answered that I knew many people of like mind in the Soviet Union through whom I could get important information for American intelligence.

QUESTION: Who did you tell the Americans were your supporters in the Soviet Union?

ANSWER: The Americans asked LAPIN and MALYSHKIN many times as to whether it was possible to believe that I had such supporters in the Soviet Union. Knowing about this, I told MALYSHKIN and LAPIN that I had a good friend among leading party officials in Moscow from whom I could get necessary information for American intelligence. I told them this in order to raise my authority in their eyes and not compromise myself to the Americans. In reality, I have no such supporters in the Soviet Union, though from my previous work in the party I had many friends that I could not count on, since over the course of four years I had openly acted against the Soviet regime and completely compromised myself in their eyes. I did not give the Americans any names.

QUESTION: Tell us about your further connection with American intelligence.

ANSWER: After the talks with Maksim, MALYSHKIN, LAPIN, and I agreed that in the future each of us would conduct anti-Soviet work independently. For this reason, I would set myself up under the name MAKSIMOV in Munich and MALYSHKIN under the name of VOLODIN in the region of the city of Füssen. LAPIN was to go with MALYSHKIN under the name of SLAVIN. It was agreed that our password would be "Whitening sail" [*Beleet parus*] by which MALYSHKIN and LAPIN could find me in a certain restaurant in Munich located near the train station.

Maksim and his translator DIK had visited me more than once, but in one of our conversations, they told me that a general in American intelligence in Europe had made some sort of mistake in his activity, and due to this difficulties has arisen in the implementation of the plan for our freedom. At the same time, the translator told me that our group was to undergo a commission for repatriation. On 25 April, 1946, I was called before the commission on repatriation, where I said that I did not wish to return to the Soviet Union. On 28 April, 1946, DENISOV escaped the camp. The day after DENISOV's escape, the rest of our group was placed in prison, isolated from one another. On 1 May, 1946, I was handed over to the Soviet command by the Americans.

The transcript of the interrogation has been accurately recorded from my words and read by me.

Zhilenkov.

INTERRGATED BY: DEPUTY SECTION HEAD OF INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"
Major SEDOV
SR. INVESTIGATOR OF THE INVESTIGATION DIVISION OF THE MAIN DIRECTORATE "SMERSH"
Major CHEREPKO

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 2. L. 93–134. Original.

13. Concluding documents on the investigation of A. A. Vlasov

N° 13.1. Memorandum of the Head of the Main Directorate of the Counterintelligence SMERSH V. S. Abakumov on the question of the judicial proceedings of Vlasov, A. A., and a group of his closest supporters.

4 January, 1946

Top Secret

Moscow
SOVIET OF NATIONAL COMMISSARS OF THE USSR
To Comrade STALIN

As I already testified, we have in custody in the Main Administration of SMERSH the leader of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia created by the Germans, the traitor VLASOV A. A. and a group of his closest supporters:

Major General TRUKHIN F. I.—member of the presidium of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and the executive officer of the German-created Russian Liberation Army;

Major General ZAKUTNY D. Ye.—member of the presidium of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and the head of the Civil Affairs Administration of that committee;

Major General of Shore Service BLAGOVECHENSKY I. A.—one of the leaders of the Propaganda Administration of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia;

Brigade commander BOGDANOV M. V.—head of artillery in the Russian Liberation Army;

Colonel MALTSEV V. I.—member of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and commanding officer of aviation for the Russian Liberation Army;

Colonel BUNYACHENKO S. K.—member of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and commander of the first division of the Russian Liberation Army;

Colonel ZVEREV G. A.—member of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and commander of the second division of the Russian Liberation Army;

Lt. Colonel KORBUKOV V. D.—member of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russian and head of communications for the Russian Liberation Army;

Lt. Colonel SHATOV N. S.—inspector of the Propaganda Administration of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

The investigation into the cases of the arrested VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and others has established that the German-created Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia actively fought against the Soviet government.

VLASOV published and distributed a large number of anti-Soviet leaflets, proclamations, and addresses to Russian military POWs and Soviet citizens, calling on them to take up arms for the overthrow of the Soviet regime.

VLASOV, TRUKHIN, and BLAGOVECHENSKY trained people from among the traitors to the Homeland to become special fascist propagandists, who then traveled from camp to camp recruiting POWs for service in the Russian Liberation Army.

VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and other members of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia put out a manifesto in which they slandered the great leader of the people, called for the overthrow of the Soviet government, and indicated that "the committee was created for the liberation of the peoples of Russia from the Bolshevist system, for establishing peace with Germany, and for the creation of a government without Bolsheviks."

VLASOV and ZAKUTNY conducted active hostile activity among the Soviet citizens and population of the occupied territories of the Soviet Union forced to work in Germany, and also—on orders from HIMMLER personally—united the existing anti-Soviet White Guard organizations in Germany to fight under the leadership of the Germans against the Soviet regime.

VLASOV and TRUKHIN organized an intelligence service against the Soviet Union; trained spies, saboteurs, and terrorists in special schools to be inserted into the rear territory of the Red Army; and conducted counterintelligence work uncovering Soviet patriots whom they then killed.

VLASOV, TRUKHIN, BOGDANOV, MALTSEV, and SHATOV, on orders from the Germans, formed units of the Russian Liberation Army and trained them for the armed fight against the Red Army. The first division of the RLA, under the command of BUNYACHENKO, participated in battles with Soviet troops outside Berlin, and the second division, led by ZVEREV, was led by him to cross over to the side of the Anglo-American forces due to the German defeat.

The treasonous activity of each of the above-listed arrested persons is briefly explained in the fact sheet presented here.

VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, BLAGOVECHENSKY, BOGDANOV, MALTSEV, BUNYACHENKO, ZVEREV, KORBUKOV, and SHATOV admitted to their treasonous activity, and in addition to this they reveal as originals the anti-Soviet documents they created, the recordings of public speeches, articles in the German press, and newsreels that the Germans put out on the institution of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

Joining VLASOV in conducting hostile activity were Major General MALYSHKIN V. F., former executive officer of the 19th Army, and Brigade Commissar ZHILENKOV G. M., former member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army, who were both members of the presidium of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and were close associates of VLASOV.

The traitors MALYSHKIN and ZHILENKOV are currently located in the American zone of occupied Germany. Through the Administration of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR authorized for matters of repatriation, the question has been put to the American military command about turning over MALYSHKIN and ZHILENKOV to the Soviet regime.

We consider it necessary that:

1. VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, BLAGOVECHENSKY, BOGDANOV, MALTSEV, BUNYACHENKO, ZVEREV, KORBUKOV, and SHATOV be tried by the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR.[146]

The composition of the Military College defined as presiding: Colonel General of Justice ULRICH,[147] or Major General of Justice IYEVLEV (member of the Military College); members: Major General of Justice DMITRIEV, Colonel of Justice SIULDIN, and two temporary members of the Military College from among the commanders of the Red Army.

The case will be heard with the participation of the prosecuting attorney—the Main Military Prosecutor of the Red Army, Lieutenant General of Justice AFANASYEV [148]—and defense counsel as designated by the Military College, in open court session, but with a limited circle of individuals present from the command staff of the Red Army according to a special list.

2. All of the accused, in accordance with Point 1 of the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Council of the USSR from 19 April, 1943,[149] will be sentenced to capital punishment by hanging and the sentence carried out within the confines of the prison.

3. The progress of the trial will not be published in the press, and at the end of the trial, a notice will be published in the name of the Military College that the trial took place, the court's sentence, and the fact that the sentence was carried out.

4. In court, the prosecutor will present documents revealing VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and other accused persons, including:

- An agreement signed by VLASOV and the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Baron STEENGRACHT on the financing by Hitler's government of hostile activity of Vlasov supporters against the Soviet Union;
- a manifesto calling for active fighting against the Soviet regime, signed by VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, BLAGOVECHENSKY, and 49 others;
- an address by VLASOV and MALYSHKIN to the military service members of the Red Army and the

intelligentsia of the Soviet Union with a call to fight against the Soviet government.

To expose the treasonous activity of VLASOV and the other arrested persons, ten witnesses directly serving in Vlasov's units with be called to the court. In addition, during the trial a German-produced newsreel that illustrates the meeting of Vlasov supporters in Prague dedicated to the institution of the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia will be shown. At this meeting, VLASOV gave a speech and read aloud the manifesto in the presence of representatives of the German government.

5. If the traitors MALYSHKIN and ZHILENKOV are not handed over by the Americans by the beginning of the trial, then they will be tried in absentia and both MALYSHKIN and ZHILENKOV sentenced to capital punishment by hanging.

The investigative case accusing VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and others will be completed and the trial can begin on 25, January 1946.

I request your instructions.

ABAKUMOV

[Attachment]
Top Secret
LIST

Of those arrested by the agencies of SMERSH, generals and officers of the Red Army who have betrayed their Homeland, who at the orders of the Germans and under the leadership of the traitor VLASOV conducted active hostile activity against the Soviet Union.

VLASOV Andrei Andreevich, Lieutenant General, former deputy commander of the forces of the Volkhov Front and commander of the 2nd Strike Force Army, born 1901, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1930, in the Red Army since 1920.

Arrested 12 May, 1945, in the region of Shlisselburg (Germany).

He admitted that already in 1937 he had hostile feelings towards the Soviet regime, and in July 1942, in the region of Luban, surrounded by the enemy, he betrayed the Homeland and voluntarily surrendered to the Germans.

While he was with the Germans, he established criminal connections with the German military command and German intelligence, on whose assignment he conducted an active fight against the Soviet government and to that end:

recruited from among hostile elements those of like mind who, in turn, created anti-Soviet formations;

published a number of anti-Soviet leaflets and addresses to the military service members of the Red Army and the population of the USSR with a call to armed conflict for the overthrow of the Soviet regime;

conducted among Soviet POWs and citizens of the occupied territories of the Soviet Union active hostile activity.

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In 1944, VLASOV, on orders from German intelligence and HIMMLER personally, united the active White Guard organizations in Germany—the Russian All-Military Union, the National-Labor Union for the New Generation, the Russian National Union of Participants of the War, and White Cossacks—in order to fight together against the Soviet Union.To lead the anti-Soviet activity, on orders from the Germans, VLASOV created the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, himself holding the position of chair of the committee, and formed from Soviet POWs and White Guard members the so-called Russian Liberation Army, which consisted of two divisions, one reserve brigade, an officers' school, and several special units, numbering in total up to forty thousand people. The first division of the RLA took part in battles against Red Army units outside Berlin.

In addition to HIMMLER, VLASOV met with GOEBBELS and RIBBENTROP, negotiating with them to strengthen anti-Soviet activity, and then GORING, who transferred to him four thousand Soviet POWs to form the aviation units of the RLA.

In April 1945, together with his closest supporters—former Generals of the Red Army TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and ZAKUTNY—fearing responsibility for committing crimes against the Soviet regime and worried that they would be taken by the Red Army, he made the decision to escape to the side of the Anglo-American forces and lead the units of the RLA there as well, but, VLASOV, TRUKHIN, and

ZAKUTNY were arrested while attempting to cross over to the Anglo-Americans.

VLASOV's treasonous activity is revealed through the testimony of the arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army TRUKHIN F. I., ZAKUTNY D. Ye., BLAGOVECHENSKY I. A., BOGDANOV N. V., and others, through original documents created by him of an anti-Soviet nature, records of public speeches, articles in the German press, and newsreel cinema releases of the Germans on the activities of the Vlasov supporters.

On 24 February, 1943, by the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR, VLASOV was sentenced in absentia to be shot as a traitor to the Homeland.

TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich, Major General, former head of operations for the headquarters of the Baltic Military District, born 1896, Russian, from a family of large landowners, officer of the Imperial Army, not a party member, in the Red Army since 1918.

Arrested 7 May, 1945, in the region of Pribram (Czechoslovakia).

Admitted that in June 1941, in the region of Jekabpils (Lithuanian SSR), he betrayed his Homeland and surrendered to the Germans.

While a prisoner, in October 1941, in order to fight against the Soviet regime, he joined the so-called Russian Labor People's Party (RLPP) created by German intelligence, which conducted active hostile activity against the Soviet Union. On assignment from the Germans, he joined the committee of the RLPP, where he recruited Soviet POWs, calling on them to conduct an armed fight against the Red Army, and developed provisions for the creation of the Russian National Army.

In March 1942, TRUKHIN was appointed by the Germans to the position of commandant of the Ziethenhorst camp, joined the White Guard organization National-Labor Union for the New Generation, and actively participated in training White émigrés being sent for anti-Soviet work in German-occupied Soviet territories.

From August 1943, as the head of the school for fascist propagandists in Dabendorf, TRUKHIN trained around four thousand propagandists from among the traitors of the Homeland who were used by the Germans for hostile activity among Soviet

POWs and in military units formed to fight against the Soviet regime.

In November 1944, TRUKHIN, having established contact with VLASOV, became his closest supporter and, with VLASOV, organized the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and wrote a number of anti-Soviet documents, and later became the executive officer of the Russian Liberation Army (RLA) created on the orders of the Germans.

TRUKHIN directly led the formation of RLA units that were used in battles against the Soviet forces, and organized intelligence activity against the Soviet Union. On his orders, a special program was developed to train spies, saboteurs, and terrorists for use in hostile missions on Soviet territory.

TRUKHIN's treasonous activity is revealed in the testimony of arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army VLASOV A. A., ZAKUTNY D. Ye., BLAGOVECHENSKY I. A., and others, and also through original anti-Soviet documents created with his participation.

In addition, the testimony of PINKO A. A., convicted in 1938, and head of the financial department of Almaatstroi Trust, along with that of PAVLOV A. V., former assistant to the head of the Frunze Military Academy, incriminate TRUKHIN for participating in an anti-Soviet military fascist conspiracy.

TRUKHIN's brother, TRUKHIN S. I., was shot in 1938 for active anti-Soviet activity, and his other brother, TRUKHIN I. I., was tried in absentia in 1943 as a participant of an anti-Soviet group in Moscow and sentenced to ten years in a corrective labor camp.

Sentenced on 8 December 1942 to the firing squad by the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR for treason to the Homeland.

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ZAKUTNY Dmitri Yefimovich, Major General, former commander of the 21st Rifle Corps of the Western Front, born in 1897, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1919, in the Red Army since 1918.

Arrested 22 June, 1945, in Ausburg (Germany).

He admitted that in June 1941, when surrounded by German forces in the area of Zimnitsa in Gomel District, he betrayed the Homeland and surrendered to the Germans.

While a prisoner, he gave the Germans information on the conditions of the units of the 21st Rifle Corps, slandered the Communist Party and the Soviet government, and also offered to create a so-called "Russian government" in the occupied territory in order to unite anti-Soviet elements.

In February 1943, ZAKUTNY was freed from imprisonment by the Germans and entered the service of the German Ministry of Propaganda, where he was the editor of anti-Soviet brochures and leaflets that were distributed among Soviet POWs and Soviet citizens driven to Germany.

In November 1944, ZAKUTNY established contact with VLASOV and with him created the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, was one of the authors of the manifesto published by the committee, signed it along with VLASOV, and was later the leader of the Civil Affairs Administration of the committee, recruited a number of former Soviet scholars who had been brought out of the country by the Germans for anti-Soviet activity, and also conducted hostile work among the Soviet citizens driven into Germany.

In April 1945, on VLASOV's orders, ZAKUTNY remained in Füssen to conduct negotiations with the command of the Anglo-American forces about offering asylum to RLA participants.

In July 1945, ZAKUTNY was taken from the Allied territory into the zone of the Soviet occupying forces and arrested.

ZAKUTNY's treasonous activity is revealed in the testimony of traitors to the Homeland and former military service members of the Red Army VLASOV A. A., TRUKHIN F. I, and others, and also through original anti-Soviet documents compiled with his participation.

On 23 October, 1942, he was sentenced in absentia to the firing squad by the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR for treason.

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BLAGOVECHENSKY Ivan Alekseevich, Major General of Shore Service, former head of the Libava Naval Academy for Shore Defense, born 1893, Russian, from the family of a priest, former

member of the All-Union Communist Party since 1921, in the Red Army since 1918.

Arrested on 3 June, 1945, in Marienbad (Germany).

He admitted that under the influence of anti-Soviet feelings, in June 1941 in the area of Libava, he betrayed the Homeland and crossed over to the side of the enemy.

On his own initiative, he wrote an address to the German command in which he asked to be freed from imprisonment and given the chance to fight against the Soviet regime.

On orders from the Germans, BLAGOVECHENSKY actively took part in the creation of the so-called Committee for the Fight against Bolshevism among the Soviet POWs held in the Hammelburg camp, the participants of which were used for sabotage and who betrayed around two thousand Soviet POWs who were conducting active anti-fascist work and were consequently arrested by the Germans.

As one of the leaders of the Committee for the Fight Against Bolshevism, BLAGOVECHENSKY published in his name an anti-Soviet newspaper "For the Homeland" that was distributed among imprisoned military service members of the Red Army and personally wrote anti-Soviet articles.

From March 1943, BLAGOVECHENSKY was the head of the courses for fascist propagandists in Dabendorf, where under his leadership around three thousand propagandists were trained who went on to conduct anti-Soviet activity in the camps for POWs. After VLASOV's creation of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, BLAGOVECHENSKY was one of the leaders of the Propaganda Administration of the committee and conducted active anti-Soviet activity.

In March 1945, BLAGOVECHENSKY, as authorized by the traitor VLASOV, remained in Marienbad to conduct negotiations with the command of the Anglo-American forces on crossing over to their side. While carrying out this assignment, he was caught by counterintelligence officials, taken to the Soviet zone of occupation, and arrested.

BLAGOVECHENSKY's treasonous activity is revealed by the testimony of the arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army VLASOV A. A., TRUKHIN F. I., ZAKUTNY D. Ye., and others.

On 14 May, 1943, he was sentenced in absentia to the firing squad by the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR for treason.

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BOGDANOV Mikhail Vasilyevich, brigade commander, former commander of artillery of the 8th Rifle Corps of the Southern Front,[150] born 1897, Russian, not a party member, in the Red Army since 1918.

Arrested 3 May, 1945, in Ceske-Budejovice (Czechoslovakia).

He admitted that he betrayed the Homeland when he surrendered to the Germans in August 1941 in the area of Uman.

While in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs, he voluntarily cooperated with the Germans and on their orders wrote out the status of military operations for the 8th Rifle Corps, and then was engaged in putting together military actions of the Red Army on the Southwest Front.

In November 1942, BOGDANOV was freed from the camps by the Germans and appointed head of the academic section of the so-called "Russian-German School" that existed under the organization TODT, managing the training of specialists for work in German organizations in the occupied territory of the Soviet Union.

In November 1944, BOGDANOV established contact with VLASOV and, when he joined the service of the Russian Liberation Army, traveled around the camps of Soviet POWs, where he led the anti-Soviet work of RLA propagandists there.

From December 1944 until the moment he was arrested, while he held the position of head of artillery for the RLA, he led the formation of artillery units which later took part in battles against the Soviet forces, and he composed training materials for them.

BOGDANOV's criminal activity is revealed by the testimony of the arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army VLASOV, A. A., TRUKHIN F. I., BLAGOVECHENSKY I. A., and others, and also through documents taken at his arrest.

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MALTSEV Viktor Ivanovich, Colonel, former head of the sanitorium for the Civilian Air Fleet in Yalta, in the past was the commanding officer of the Air Force in the Siberian Military District, born 1895, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1919, was excluded from the party in 1921 for degradation, rejoined the party in 1925.

In 1938, he was arrested under suspicion of conducting anti-Soviet activity and then was freed from custody.

Arrested 18 August 1945 in Leerburg (France).

He admitted that, being hostile to the Soviet regime, in November 1941, he refused to evacuate from the city of Yalta to the rear territory of the Soviet Union and, awaiting the arrival of the German forces, voluntarily presented himself at the SS headquarters and offered his services in the fight against the Bolsheviks.

On orders from the Germans, MALTSEV wrote an anti-Soviet brochure entitled "The Assembly Line of the State Political Administration," which was distributed as propaganda in the occupied territory of the Soviet Union; he worked in the anti-Soviet newspapers *Voice of Crimea* and *Yevpatoria News*, placing in them slanderous articles; and more than once he appeared in public with anti-Soviet speeches.

In March 1942, MALTSEV was appointed to the position of burgomaster by the Germans, and later became a civilian judge in the city of Yalta, and he conducted active treasonous activity.

In June 1943, MALTSEV crossed over into the service of the so-called Russian Liberation Army and formed an aviation squadron from former Soviet pilots who had betrayed their Homeland. This squadron conducted military action against Soviet partisans.

In January 1944, MALTSEV established contact with VLASOV and was appointed commanding officer of aviation of the RLA, where he formed aviation units from military POWs that were intended to fight against Soviet forces.

MALTSEV more than once spoke on the radio and appeared in the German press with addresses to the military service members of the Red Army, calling on them to fight against the Soviet government, and at the same time, he actively conducted hostile propaganda among the Soviet citizens driven by the Germans to Germany.

In February 1945, MALTSEV joined the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and took part in arranging events directed against the Soviet regime.

For his actions, the Germans gave him the rank of Major General.

In April 1945, fearing being taken by the Red Army and intending to continue his anti-Soviet activity, he escaped to the Americans, leading four thousand participants of the RLA with him.

When he was arrested, he attempted to commit suicide.

MALTSEV's criminal activity is revealed by the testimony of arrested traitors to the Homeland VLASOV A. A., TRUKHIN F. I., and others. On 24 July, 1944, he was sentenced in absentia by the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR to the firing squad for treason.

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BUNYACHENKO Sergei Kuzmich, Colonel, former commander of the 389th Rifle Division of the northern group of the Caucasus Front, born 1902, Ukrainian, member of the All-Union Communist Party since 1919, in the Red Army since 1918.

Arrested 17 May, 1945, in the region of Prague.

He admitted to the fact that in November 1942 he exhibited cowardice and, giving in to panic, gave the order to destroy a portion of the railway between Mozdok and Chervlennoe ahead of time, causing weakness in the defenses of the Soviet forces, for which in September 1942 he was sentenced to the firing squad by the Military Tribunal of the northern group of the Caucasus Front, a sentence which was later commuted to 10 years in a correctional labor camp being sent to the front.

In December 1942 in the region of Orzhonikidze, he surrendered to the Germans, gave them secret information on the state of armaments of units of the northern group of the Caucasus Front, and offered his services in the fight against Bolshevism.

In January 1943, in order to fight against the Soviet regime, BUNYACHENKO voluntarily joined the service of the so-called Russian Liberation Army and was initially the head teacher of courses training RLA officers from among traitors to the Homeland. Later, he was the communications officer in the

headquarters of the 7th German Army,[151] and at the same time undertook recruitment of POWs into the service of the Germans.

In August 1944, BUNYACHENKO established contact with VLASOV and joined the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and signed the manifesto published by the same, which called on Soviet citizens to fight against the Soviet regime.

BUNYACHENKO directly formed the first division of the RLA and, as commander of that division, led its military actions against Soviet forces outside of Berlin.

For active enemy activity he was given awards and medals by the German command four times, and he was also given the rank of Major General.

He was arrested trying to escape to the side of the Anglo-American forces.

BUNYACHENKO's treasonous activity is revealed by the testimony of the arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army VLASOV A. A., TRUKHIN F. I., and others, and also through documents taken at the time of his arrest.

ZVEREV Grigori Aleksandrovich, Colonel, former commander of the 350th Rifle Division of the Voronezh Front, born in 1900, Russian, member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1926, in the Red Army since 1919.

Arrested 12 May, 1945, in the region of Prague.

He admitted that in March 1943 in the region of Khoroshego in Kharkov District, he betrayed the Homeland by surrendering to the Germans and voluntarily joining the service of the so-called Russian Liberation Army.

As an RLA inspector, ZVEREV made trips to Soviet POW camps, recruiting them into the service of the Germans.

In November 1944, after VLASOV had created the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, ZVEREV was sent to Norway, where he recruited Soviet POWs into the service of the RLA.

In December 1944, ZVEREV was appointed to the position of commander of the second division of the RLA by the Germans, himself formed the division, and then attempted to lead it away into the zone of the Anglo-American forces.

For his active enemy activity, ZVEREV was more than once given awards by the German command and was given the rank of Major General.

When he was arrested, he attempted to commit suicide.

ZVEREV's criminal activity is revealed by the testimony of the arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army VLASOV A. A., TRUKHIN F. I., and others, and also through documents taken during his arrest.

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KORBUKOV Vladimir Denisovich, Lieutenant Colonel, former assistant to the head of communications for the 2nd Strike Force Army of the Volkhov Front, born in 1900, member of the All-Union Communist Party from 1925, in the Red Army from 1919.

Arrested 12 September, 1945, in the region of Prague.

He admitted that in October 1942 in the region of Staraya Russa, when he was surrounded by the enemy, he exhibited cowardice and surrendered to the Germans.

In August 1943, KORBUKOV of his own accord applied to study at the courses for RLA propagandists at Dabendorf, and upon completion of these courses, he served as an inspector under the Eastern Division of the Headquarters of the German Armed Forces, checking and directing the anti-Soviet work of RLA propagandists in the camps for military POWs and among the civilian population driven by the German from the Soviet regions.

In November 1944, KORBUKOV established contact with VLASOV and was appointed as head of communications for the RLA headquarters, led the formation of communications units in the divisions of the RLA, and provided checks to their training for the armed fight against the Red Army.

In May 1945, hoping to avoid responsibility for the crimes he had committed, KORBUKOV escaped to the Americans, where he joined the Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which was continuing to function under the leadership of traitor to the Homeland and former head of operations for the headquarters of the 6th Army Colonel MEANDROV.[152]

KORBUKOV's criminal activity is revealed in the testimony of the arrested traitors to the homeland VLASOV A. A., TRUKHIN F. S., BLAGOVECHENSKY I. A., and others.

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SHATOV Nikolai Stepanovich, Lieutenant Colonel, former head of artillery support for the headquarters of the Northern Caucasus Military District, born 1901, Russian, member of the All-Union Communist Party since 1929, in the Red Army since 1919.

Arrested on 15 September, 1945, in Germany.

He admitted that in October 1941 in the region of Rostov-on-Don, he betrayed the Homeland and crossed over to the side of the enemy.

While a prisoner, SHATOV gave the Germans secret information that he knew about the numbers and arms of the forces of the Northern Caucasus Military District and offered his services to fight against the Soviet regime.

In July 1942, while in the Hammelburg camp for military POWs, SHATOV joined the German-created so-called Russian Labor People's Party and later, having become the party's leader, conducted active enemy work among Soviet POWs.

From November 1942, SHATOV served in the organization TODT and in German camps where Soviet citizens forcibly driven to Germany were held, and he conducted active anti-Soviet activity among them.

In July 1944, SHATOV established contact with VLASOV and joined the service of the RLA, where he held the post of inspector and directed the anti-Soviet work of fascist propagandists, and also was involved in recruiting Soviet POWs into the service of the RLA, personally recruiting 120 people.

In April 1945, fearing responsibility for the crimes he had committed against the Soviet regime, SHATOV escaped to the Americans, and from there he was brought to our side.

SHATOV's criminal activity is revealed in the testimony of the arrested traitors to the Homeland former military service members of the Red Army TRUKHIN F. I., BLAGOVECHENSKY I. A., and others.

V. Abakumov

The Archive of the President of the Russian Federation. F. 3. Op. 50. D. 458. L. 91–105. Original.

N° 13.2. Memorandum from V. S. Abakumov, V. V. Ulrich, and I. A. Vavilov to I. V. Stalin with a proposal to conduct a closed trial of the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR in the case of A. A. Vlasov and his active supporters.

26 April, 1946

Top Secret
Council of Ministers of the USSR
To Comrade STALIN I. V.

We consider it appropriate to hear the case against the accused traitors VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, and other active Vlasov supporters numbering 11 persons in a closed judicial session of the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR under the presiding Major General of Justice KARAVAIKOV, without the participation of the parties.

All accused to be sentenced in accordance with Point 1 of the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Court of the USSR from 19 April, 1943, to capital punishment by hanging.

Upon completion of the trial, notice of the fact of the trial, the court's sentence, and the implementation of the sentence to be published in the "chronicle" section of the newspapers.

The trial, in our opinion, may be started on 10 May, 1946.

We request your permission.

ABAKUMOV
ULRICH
VAVILOV

The Archive of the President of the Russian Federation. F. 3. Op. 50. D. 458. L. 106. Original.

N° 13.3. Excerpt from transcript No. 52 of the session of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the All-Union Communist Party of Bolsheviks on the trial of the CLPR leadership.

23 July, 1946
Top Secret

ALL-UNION COMMUNIST PARTY (BOLSHEVIKS). CENTRAL COMMITTEE

N° P52/318 to Abakumov, Ulrich

Excerpt from transcript No. 52 of the Session of the **Politburo of the Central Committee** from ____ 194__

Decision from 23 July, 1946

318.—Issue of the Ministry of State Security

1. To bring to trial before the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR the leaders of the German-created Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia Vlasov, Malyshkin, Trukhin, Zhilenkov, and other active Vlasov supporters numbering 12 people (list attached).

2. The case of the "Vlasov supporters" to be heard in closed judicial proceedings under the presiding Colonel General of Justice Ulrich, without the participation of the parties (prosecutor and advocates).

3. All accused, in accordance with Point 1 of the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Court of the USSR from 19 April, 1943, to be sentenced to capital punishment by hanging, and the sentence to be carried out within the confines of the prison.

4. The progress of the court proceedings not to be announced to the press.

Upon completion of the process, the facts of the case, the court's sentence, and the implementation of the sentence shall be published in the "chronicle" section of the newspapers.

The trial to begin on Tuesday 30 July of this year.

SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE

The Archive of the President of the Russian Federation. Op. 50. D. 458. L. 110. Copy.

N° 13.4. Sentence of the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR in the case of A. A. Vlasov and other active participants in CLPR and the RLA.

Moscow, 1 August, 1946

Top Secret

SENTENCE
IN THE NAME OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
MILITARY COLLEGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE USSR
Consisting of:
Presiding—Colonel General of Justice ULRICH V. V.
Members:
Major General of Justice KARAVAIKOV F. F. and
Colonel of Justice DANILOV G. N.
Secretaries:
Lieutenant Colonel of Justice POCHITALIN M. S. and
Major of Justice MAZUR A. S.

In closed judicial proceedings in Moscow on 30 and 31 July and 1 August, 1946, the case was heard involving the following accused:

1) former deputy commanding officer of the forces of the Volkhov Front and commanding officer of the forces of the 2nd Strike Army Lieutenant General VLASOV Andrei Andreevich, born 1901 in the village of Lomakino, Gagarin region of Gorky District, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

2) former executive officer of the 19th Army Major General MALYSHKIN Vasily Fyodorovich, born 1896 in Markovsky Rudnik in Stalinskaya District, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party, arrested in 1938 by the agencies of the NKVD for conducting anti-Soviet activity;

3) former member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army Brigade Commissar ZHILENKOV Georgi Nikolaevich, born 1910

in Voronezh, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

4) former deputy to the executive officer of the headquarters of the Northwest Front Major General TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich, born 1896 in Kostroma, Russian, from landowners, not a party member;

5) former head of the Naval Academy in Libava Major General of Shore Service BLAGOVECHENSKY Ivan Alekseevich, born 1893 in the city of Yurievets, Ivanovo District, Russian, son of a priest, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

6) former commander of the 21st Rifle Corps Major General ZAKUTNY Dmitri Yefimovich, born 1897 in the city of Zimovniki, Rostov District, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

7) former head of the Aeroflot sanatorium in the city of Yalta Reserve Colonel MALTSEV Victor Ivanovich, born 1895 in the city of Gus-Khrustalny, Ivanovo District, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party, excluded from the party in 1938 due to arrest by the NKVD for anti-Soviet activity;

8) former commander of the 59th Rifle Brigade Colonel BUNYACHENKO Sergei Kusmich, born 1902 in the village of Korovyakovka, Glushkovsky region, Kursk District, Ukrainian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

9) former commander of the 350th Rifle Division Colonel ZVEREV Grigori Aleksandrovich, born 1900 in the city of Voroshilovsk, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

10) former deputy to the executive officer of the 6th Army Colonel MEANDROV Mikhail Alekseevich, born 1894 in Moscow, from a family of a minister of a religious cult, not a party member;

11) former assistant to the head of communications for the 2nd Strike Force Army of the Volkhov Front Lieutenant Colonel KORBUKOV Vladimir Denisovich, born 1900 in the city of Dvinsk, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party;

12) former head of artillery support for the Northern Caucasus Military District Lieutenant Colonel SHATOV Nikolai Stepanovich, born 1901 in the village of Shatovo, Kotelnichasky region, Kirov District, Russian, former member of the All-Union Communist Party—

—all for crimes in Article 1 of the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from 19 April, 1943 and Articles 58-1b, 58-8, 58-9, 58-10, part II and 58-11[153] of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR.

Preliminary investigation and trial have established that:

The accused VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, MEANDROV, MALTSEV, BLAGOVECHENSKY, BUNYACHENKO, ZVEREV, KORBUKOV, and SHATOV, being military service members of the Red Army and having anti-Soviet leanings, during a troubled period for the Soviet Union in the Great War for the Fatherland, forsook their military oath, betrayed the socialist Homeland and at various times voluntarily crossed over to the side of the German fascist forces.

While on the side of the enemy, all of the accused, led by VLASOV, on orders of the leaders of the German fascist government, over the course of 1941–1943 conducted broad treasonous activity directed at armed conflict against the Soviet Union, and in 1944, VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZAKUTNY, MEANDROV, BUNYACHENKO, and others joined the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia created by Himmler and on orders from German intelligence created armed units from among former White Guard members, prisoners, nationalists, and other anti-Soviet elements that were called the Russian Liberation Army (RLA); they organized spying and sabotage in the Soviet rear territory, the murder of officers and soldiers of the Red Army, and also made arrangements for terrorist acts to be committed against leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet government. The accused Vlasov and his conspirators had as their end goal the overthrow of the Soviet government, the liquidation of the socialist order, and the organization of a fascist government on the territory of the Soviet Union. To conduct their criminal activity, Vlasov and his conspirators received from the German command all necessary material support and weapons, and all of their practical activity was led by Himmler and his assistants.

From evidence gathered in the case and the personal admissions of the accused, both in the preliminary investigation and the trial, the specific treasonous actions of each of the accused has been established to be as follows:

1) VLASOV, while he was the deputy commanding officer of the forces of the Volkhov Front and at the same time the commanding officer of the 2nd Strike Force Army of the same front, in July 1942, while in the region of Luban, due to his anti-Soviet leanings, betrayed the Homeland and crossed over to the side of the German fascist forces, gave the Germans secret information on the plans of the Soviet command, and also slanderously characterized the Soviet government and the conditions in the rear territory of the Soviet Union. Soon after this, VLASOV agreed with the German command to lead units of the so-called Russian Army formed by the Germans, thus expressing his desire to be in the future "Russian government," and discussed questions of dismantling the Soviet Union with responsible representatives of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In December 1942, VLASOV, together with other traitors to the Homeland, on orders from the German military command and German intelligence, created the so-called Russian Committee, which had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet governmental order and the establishment in the USSR of a fascist regime. As the head of this committee, VLASOV recruited from among hostile elements those of like mind, published anti-Soviet leaflets for those serving in the Red Army and the population of the USSR, and traveled to camps where Soviet POWs were held and throughout the occupied territories of the Soviet Union, calling on Soviet citizens to take up arms against the Soviet government and the Red Army. At the end of 1944, VLASOV, on orders from German intelligence and Himmler personally, united the White Guard organizations that existed in Germany and, together with his closest conspirators, the traitors TRUKHIN, MALYSHKIN, ZHILENKOV, and ZAKUTNY, led the German-created so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR).

Having as his goal the overthrow of the USSR with the help of the Germans, VLASOV, under the leadership of the fascists, formed the so-called Russian Liberation Army from the White Guard members, prisoners, and traitors to the Homeland. He organized spying and sabotage in the rear territory of the Soviet forces and prepared terrorist acts against the leaders of the Soviet government. VLASOV led the work of recruiting Soviet POWs into the so-called RLA, punished individuals suspected of anti-fascist activity, and personally conferred death sentences.

Appointed on the orders of Hitler to the post of commander-in-chief of the RLA, he sent military units that he had formed to the front for combat against Soviet forces.

In 1944, VLASOV entered into criminal contact not only with Himmler, but also with Goring, Goebbels, and Ribbentrop, conducted negotiations with them, and jointly arranged activities to intensify actions directed against the USSR. After the defeat and capitulation of Hitler's Germany, VLASOV and his conspirators tried to escape to the region occupied by the American forces in order to continue their fight against the Soviet Union, but they were taken prisoner by Red Army units.

2) MALYSHKIN, as the executive officer of the 19th Army, in October 1941 in the region of Vyazma, betrayed his Homeland and voluntarily crossed over to the side of the German fascist forces.

MALYSHKIN reported information on the numbers of the 19th Army and its composition by division to the Germans, indicated the army's region of operation, and introduced a proposal to create in Germany a political center with the functions of a government in order to invigorate anti-Soviet activity. In December 1942, MALYSHKIN, together with VLASOV, on orders from German leaders, participated in the creation of the so-called Russian Committee and signed, as secretary of the committee, an address to the military service members of the Red Army and the population with a call to fight against the Soviet regime, and also conducted active work in the creation of military units for armed combat against the Red Army.

In November 1944, MALYSHKIN, together with VLASOV, TRUKHIN, and other conspirators, organized the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia (CLPR).

MALYSHKIN himself directly took part in the creation of the Manifesto of CLPR, and later, as VLASOV's deputy, headed the Organizational Administration of CLPR.

MALYSHKIN, together with VLASOV, formed military units from White Guard members and traitors to the Homeland to conduct armed combat against the Red Army, organized spy work and acts of sabotage in the rear of the Soviet forces, and prepared terrorist acts against the leaders of the Soviet government.

MALYSHKIN, together with ZHILENKOV, led the publication of anti-Soviet newspapers, brochures, and leaflets

calling on the population of the USSR to take up arms against the Soviet regime; traveled to camps where Soviet POWs were held for this reason; and traveled to temporarily occupied Soviet territories and in his speeches spread slander against the Soviet government.

While with the Germans, MALYSHKIN directly led intelligence-gathering activity against the USSR.

In April 1945, MALYSHKIN, together with his conspirators, made the decision to continue anti-Soviet activity and escaped to the south of Germany, where he established contact with American intelligence and gave them secret information that he had about the Soviet Union.

In March 1946, MALYSHKIN, who refused to return to the USSR, was handed over to the command of Soviet forces by the Americans.

3) ZHILENKOV, as a member of the Military Council of the 32nd Army, crossed over to the Germans in October 1941, betraying the Homeland.

In May 1942, due to his hostile feelings toward the Soviet regime, he presented to the Germans a plan for anti-Soviet activity he had personally composed, which included the creation of a "Russian government," and then joined the service of the Military Propaganda Division of the German Armed Forces, where he edited anti-Soviet leaflets and brochures that were distributed at the front and in the rear area of the Soviet forces.

In August 1942, ZHILENKOV, on orders from the Germans, organized the publication of the newspaper "Homeland" [*Rodina*], and wrote his own articles of an anti-Soviet nature for it.

In the same month, ZHILENKOV, together with traitor to the Homeland Boyarsky, wrote a memorandum with the proposal to create the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Homeland and the Russian Liberation Army to join with the Germans against the Soviet Union.

In December 1942, ZHILENKOV, together with VLASOV, created the so-called Russian Committee, which had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime and he personally signed an address published in the name of this committee. As a member of this committee, ZHILENKOV organized the publication of the anti-Soviet newspaper Volunteer [*Dobrovolets*] and gave lectures at courses for fascist propagandists.

In April 1943, ZHILENKOV, on orders from the Germans, formed the so-called Guard Strike Brigade of the RLA which was to be used as a base for the preparation of terrorists and saboteurs, about which he presented a plan that he specially compiled for the Gestapo on the organization of terrorist acts against the leaders of the All-Union Communist Party and the Soviet Government. This plan was sent by ZHILENKOV to the 6th Department of the Main Office of Security of the German Reich.

ZHILENKOV, on orders from the German command, more than once traveled out to the so-called volunteer battalions that were within the German army, and he called on the soldiers and officers of these battalions to take up arms against the Soviet Union. In June 1944, ZHILENKOV, on orders from the Germans, organized the publication of the anti-Soviet newspaper For Peace and Freedom [*Za mir is svobodu*], published in it a number of slanderous articles that he wrote, and put together a number of brochures and leaflets with anti-Soviet content that the Germans dropped from planes in areas where there were Red Army units.

In November 1944, ZHILENKOV, together with VLASOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, and other traitors, created the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, was the author of the "manifesto" put out by the "committee," and signed it along with VLASOV and the other traitors, as well as heading the Propaganda Administration of the "committee."

In April 1945, after the defeat of Hitler's Germany, he escaped to the south of Germany, where he established contact with American intelligence and wrote a number of slanderous notes against the leaders of the Communist Party and the Soviet Government.

4) TRUKHIN—former deputy to the executive officer of the headquarters of the Northwest Front and

5) BLAGOVECHENSKY—former head of the Naval Academy at Libava, who betrayed the Homeland and crossed over in 1941 to the side of the enemy and gave the enemy a host of information that was military secrets.

On orders from German intelligence, they, together with VLASOV, created the so-called Russian Committee, which had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime in the USSR. As participants of the anti-Soviet organization the so-called Russian

Labor Nation Party (RLPP), they joined the leadership of the committee, recruited new members into this anti-Soviet organization from among Soviet military POWs, and called on them to take up arms against the Red Army.

In 1941, TRUKHIN, on orders from the fascist German intelligence, put together a proposal for the creation of military units from the participants of RLPP to be inserted into the Soviet rear territory with the goal of conducting disruptive work in the Red Army and carrying out sabotage on lines of supply and communication, and BLAGOVECHENSKY created special commissions to uncover political workers and NKVD officials among the Soviet POWs, and personally signed and presented to the Gestapo reports on POWs who refused to cooperate with the Germans.

TRUKHIN and BLAGOVESCHENSKY, while serving the German fascists in the post of head of the courses for fascist propagandists, led the training of personnel hostile to the Soviet Union, who were then used by the Germans to conduct anti-Soviet work in the camps of Soviet POWs and among the population of the regions of the Soviet Union temporarily occupied by German invaders.

TRUKHIN and BLAGOVECHENSKY actively took part in the organization of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia and had as their goal, under the leadership of the Germans, the overthrow of the existing governmental order in the USSR by means of armed combat, espionage, sabotage, and terror.

TRUKHIN, on the orders of the German command, ran the headquarters of the so-called Russian Liberation Army, and BLAGOVECHENSKY ran a group who worked on the development of CLPR's agenda.

TRUKHIN also joined the executive bureau of the White Guard terrorist organization the so-called National-Labor Union for the New Generation and developed the training program to prepare spies, saboteurs, and terrorists to conduct sabotage on Soviet territory.

6) ZAKUTNY, while at the front of the War for the Fatherland in the post of commander of the 21st Rifle Corps, on 26 June, 1941 betrayed the Homeland and crossed over to the side of the German fascist invaders, gave the Germans secret information

that he knew about the Red Army, and offered to develop an agenda of a future "Russian government" for them.

Soon after this, ZAKUTNY made contact with German military intelligence and gave the Germans information that he possessed on fortified regions of the USSR, and prepared and gave a number of reports on the Red Army's military regulations.

In February 1942, ZAKUTNY voluntarily joined the service of the German Ministry of Propaganda, where he edited and published brochures and leaflets with anti-Soviet content.

In November 1944, ZAKUTNY, together with VLASOV, TRUKHIN, ZHILENKOV, and other traitors to the Homeland, took part in the creation of the Committee for the Liberation of the People of Russia (CLPR) and was a member of that committee.

ZAKUTNY was one of the authors of the "manifesto" put out by CLPR and later, as the leader of the Civil Affairs Administration of the "committee," he recruited a number of former Soviet officials into anti-Soviet hostile activity, and also conducted hostile work among Soviet citizens forcibly taken away into German servitude.

ZAKUTNY, as an agent of the Gestapo, informed the Germans of the leanings of "committee" members.

7) MALTSEV, as the head of the sanatorium of the Air Fleet of the city of Yalta, betrayed the Homeland in November 1941 due to his hostile feelings for the Soviet regime: he refused to evacuate into the rear territory of the Soviet Union and crossed over to the side of the Germans, after which, remaining in Yalta, he conducted active enemy activity, serving the Germans at first in the position of burgomaster and later in the position of a magistrate of the city.

In 1943, MALTSEV, on orders from the Germans, wrote a brochure of anti-Soviet content which was released in a large printing by the German Ministry of Propaganda and sent as propaganda to the German-occupied regions of the USSR. MALTSEV more than once gave speeches over the radio containing a call for the overthrow of the Soviet regime.

In July-August 1943, MALTSEV, on orders from the Germans, formed the so-called Eastern Battalion HIWI, intended to fight against Red Army units, in the city of Yevpatoria.

In June 1943, MALTSEV joined the service of the so-called Russian Liberation Army, which had been created under German

leadership to fight against the Soviet Union and in which he commanded the aviation units and had the rank of Major General of the RLA.

In February 1945, MALTSEV joined the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia, which had been organized by the Germans under the leadership of the traitor VLASOV. He formed armed units to fight against the partisans and the Red Army, including RLA aviation units, and personally recruited Soviet pilots who were prisoners of the Germans into these units.

For his active enemy activity, MALTSEV received awards from the Germans and was given the rank of Major General. In April 1945, MALTSEV led more than four thousand RLA military service members over to the American forces.

8) BUNYACHENKO, as commander of the 59th Rifle Brigade, and

9) ZVEREV, as commander of the 350th Rifle Division, betrayed their Homeland and crossed over to the enemy: BUNYACHENKO in December 1942, and ZVEREV in March 1943, and while with the Germans, they voluntarily went into their service and conducted active treasonous activity.

Having established criminal contact with VLASOV in 1944, BUNYACHENKO and ZVEREV joined the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia that had been created by the Germans.

BUNYACHENKO, together with VLASOV, signed the manifesto issued by the "committee" with a call to overthrow the Soviet regime.

In November 1944, ZVEREV, while in Norway, personally recruited military POWs into the service of the RLA.

At the end of 1944, on returning from Norway, ZVEREV accepted the command of the second division of the RLA, formed it himself, and actively trained the division for military action against the Red Army.

For his active work on behalf of the Germans, ZVEREV was made a Major General by the German command.

Regarding BUNYACHENKO, it has been established that he, while in the service of the Germans, voluntarily joined the so-called RLA created by the Germans in January 1943 and was an instructor in courses for officer training.

In the summer of 1944, BUNYACHENKO, on orders from the German command, traveled to Norway, where he oversaw the formation of RLA battalions.

At the end of October 1944, BUNYACHENKO was appointed to the position of commander of the first division of the RLA, formed this division himself, and conducted active military training of the personnel.

In April 1945, he led military action of units of the RLA division in battle against the Red Army on the Oder River.

For his active work on behalf of the Germans, BUNYACHENKO was given awards more than once by the Germans and received the rank of Major General.

10) MEANDROV

11) KORBUKOV and

12) SHATOV betrayed their Homeland, crossed over to the enemy, and gave the Germans information containing military and state secrets.

In 1942, MEANDROV and SHATOV joined the so-called Russian Labor People's Party created by the Germans and were leading figures of this party.

MEANDROV and SHATOV conducted active treasonous work among the Soviet military POWs with the goal of attracting them into armed units to fight against the Red Army.

In addition, SHATOV reported to the Germans about Soviet POWs who were conducting anti-fascist work.

In addition, MEANDROV was from July of 1942 an active participant in the anti-Soviet organization Political Center for the Fight Against Bolshevism, which had as its goal the overthrow of the Soviet regime by means of armed conflict; he was a participant in the White Guard terrorist organization the National-Labor Union for the New Generation (NTSNP) and through it conducted anti-Soviet activity.

With the goal of implementing his criminal, treasonous ideas, Meandrov worked up a plan for the Germans to insert large groups of paratroopers deep in the Soviet rear territory to commit sabotage.

In July 1943, MEANDROV participated in the German punitive unit, as a member of which he fought against the partisans in the city of Ostrov (Leningrad District).

In February 1944, he joined the RLA, where he held the position of head of the Propaganda Division of the RLA Headquarters and spread slanderous fabrications about the Soviet Union.

From March 1945, he held the post of head of the RLA officers' school, training officers for the RLA.

MEANDROV, KORBUKOV, and SHATOV all took part in the anti-Soviet activity of the so-called Committee for the Liberation of the Peoples of Russia.

In May 1945, after the defeat of Hitler's Germany, MEANDROV took on the leadership of the remaining units of the so-called Russian Liberation Army; led them into the territory held by the American forces, where he announced himself the leader of CLPR; brought KORBUKOV into the membership of the committee; and conducted agitation to discourage RLA participants from returning to the Soviet Union.

KORBUKOV held the position of company commander of propagandists in the RLA, and later worked in the inspector group formed by the Germans under the headquarters of the RLA.

SHATOV, in the post of inspector, directed the anti-Soviet work of fascist propagandists in the camps of Soviet POWs, headed a group recruiting Soviet POWs into the service of the RLA, and personally recruited over 100 persons.

KORBUKOV and SHATOV, after the capitulation of Hitler's Germany, escaped to the territory held by the American forces, where KORBUKOV joined CLPR and continued to conduct anti-Soviet activity.

For active work on behalf of the Germans, MEANDROV was made a Major General by the German command, and KORBUKOV and SHATOV both received the rank of Colonel.

On the basis of the material explained above, the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR so rules: that the accusations against VLASOV, ZHILENKOV, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, BLAGOVECHENSKY, ZAKUTNY, MEANDROV, MALTSEV, BUNYACHENKO, ZVEREV, KORBUKOV, and SHATOV of the crimes they committed under Article 1 of the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from

19 April, 1943 and Articles 58-1b, 58-8, 58-9, 58-10 part III or 58-11 of the Criminal Code of the RSFSR have been so proven.

According to Articles 319–320 of the Code of Criminal Procedure of the RSFSR,[154] the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR

HAS SENTENCED:

the removal of military rank: from VLASOV—Lieutenant General, Zhilenkov—Brigade Commissar, MALYSHKIN, TRUKHIN, ZAKUTNY, and BLAGOVECHENSKY—Major General, MEANDROV, BUNYACHENKO, ZVEREV, and MALTSEV—Colonel, KORBUKOV and SHATOV—Lieutenant Colonel, and for multiple crimes committed, on the basis of Article I of the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR from 19 April, 1943:[155]

1. VLASOV Andrei Andreevich,
2. ZHILENKOV Georgi Nikolaevich,
3. MALYSHKIN Vasily Fyodorovich,
4. TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich,
5. BLAGOVECHENSKY Ivan Alekseevich,
6. ZAKUTNY Dmitri Yefimovich,
7. MEANDROV Mikhail Alekseevich,
8. MALTSEV Viktor Ivanovich,
9. BUNYACHENKO Sergei Kuzmich,
10. ZVEREV Grigori Aleksandrovich,
11. KORBUKOV Vladimir Denisovich,
12. SHATOV Nikolai Stepanovich ARE ALL SENTENCED TO CAPITAL PUNISHMENT BY HANGING.

All property in the personal possession of those sentenced to be confiscated.

The sentence is final and not subject to appeal.

Original with appropriate signatures.

Verified by: SECRETARY OF THE COLLEGE OF THE SUPREME COURT OF THE USSR

MAJOR OF JUSTICE MAZUR

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 10. L. 108–118. Authenticated copy.

N° 13.5. Certificate of Sentencing of the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR from 1 August, 1946, regarding the leaders of the RLA and CLPR sentenced to capital punishment.

19 August, 1946
CERTIFICATE

Sentence of the Military College of the Supreme Court of the USSR from 1 August 1946 regarding those sentenced to capital punishment by hanging:

1) VLASOV Andrei Andreevich, born 1901;
2) MALYSHKIN Vasily Fyodorovich, born 1896;
3) ZHILENKOV Georgi Nikolaevich, born 1910;
4) TRUKHIN Fyodor Ivanovich, born 1896;
5) BLAGOVECHENSKY Ivan Alekseevich, born 1893;
6) ZAKUTNY Dmitri Yefimovich, born 1897;
7) MALTSEV Viktor Ivanovich, born 1895;
8) BUNYACHENKO Sergei Kuzmich, born 1902;
9) ZVEREV Grigori Aleksandrovich, born 1900;
10) MEANDROV Mikhail Alekseevich, born 1894;
11) KORBUKOV Vladimir Denisovich, born 1900;
12) SHATOV Nikolai Stepanovich, 1901.

Carried out on 1 August, 1946

Deputy Head of the First Department
Division A of the Ministry of State Security of the USSR
Lt. Colonel BALISHANSKY

The Central Archive of the Russian Federal Security Service. N°N-18766. T. 10. L. 119. Original.

[1] The State Defense Committee (GKO, GOKO) was an extraordinary organ of state power in the USSR during the Great Patriotic War which held complete state power in the country. The reason for its creation was obvious: it was motivated by the complicated wartime situation that required a government that was centralized to a maximum degree. GKO was created on June 30, 1941, by a compound decision of the Presidium of Supreme Soviet of USSR, the Council of People's Commissars of USSR, and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. The GKO Chairman was Stalin, and its Deputy Chairman was Molotov; other members were Beria, Voroshilov, Malenkov. Over time, the GKO's composition was repeatedly changed. The GKO did not have its own apparatus: its decisions were prepared by the relevant people's commissariats and departments, and the clerical work was conducted by the Special Sector of the Central Committee of the VKP (b). The State Defense Committee managed all military and economic issues during the war. The battle management was implemented by the Supreme Command Headquarters. The GKO was disbanded by the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of September 4, 1945.

[2] The Russian All-Military Union (ROVS) was founded by White Army General Pyotr Wrangel on September 1, 1924, in order to "unite Russian warriors, reinforce spiritual ties between them and the best traditions and heritage of the old Imperial Army." ROVS has united the White Movement veterans in emigration (initially up to 100 thousand people). After Wrangel, the ROVS chairmen were: General Kutepov (1928–1930), General Miller (1930–1937), General Abramov (1937–1938), General Arkhangelsky (1938–1957), General von Lampe (1957– 1967). The ROVS main ideologist was Professor Ilyin.

ROVS' secret unit, the "Inner Line," was set up by General Alexander Kutepov in 1922, for the intelligence/subversive activities inside the USSR. After Kutepov and Miller were kidnapped by the Soviet secret agents, the Inner Line ceased to exist.

Before World War II, the headquarters of the ROVS was based in Paris, and its departments and branches operated in almost all countries where white emigrants lived (in Europe, North and South America, in China). There were six branches in Europe: the first in France, the second in Germany, the third in Bulgaria, the fourth in Yugoslavia, the fifth in Belgium and the sixth in Czechoslovakia. By 1937, there were 30,000 people in the ROVS.

During WW2, the ROVS members joined different sides: some maintained neutrality, others formed Russian units as part of various German troops, and others joined forces of the allies or Resistance movements.

[3] The National-Labor Alliance of the New Generation (NTSNP), organization of young Russian émigrés, which united youth groups spontaneously emerging in 1920s Yugoslavia, Bulgaria, France, Czechoslovakia, the Netherlands and the Far East. It was created in 1930 in Yugoslavia as "National Union of the New Generation." By the end of the 1930s, it existed in two dozen countries and had at least two thousand members. One of its leaders was Professor M. A. Georgiyevsky.

[4] The Russian National Union of War Veterans (RNSUV), a nationalistic, monarchist military-political organization was created in 1936 in France by General Turkul, who was disappointed with ROVS activities. In few years RNSUV branches had been created in France, Belgium, Czechoslovakia, Yugoslavia, Greece, Albany, Argentine, and Uruguay.

After Turkul's deportation from France for "pro-German views" in 1938, the RNSUV, along with the Russian Fascist Union, Russian National and Social

Movement, and other émigré organizations, joined the Russian National Front. However, in 1939 the German Government disbanded the Russian National Front as well as other Russian émigré organizations in the Third Reich. All of them went under the control of the Directorate of Russian emigration headed by former tsarist General Biskupsky.
In 1941–1943, Turkul unsuccessfully tried to rebuild RNSUV. In 1944 he joined the CLPR and formed a separate corps manned by members of RNSUV.

[5] It is referred to the Cossacks from the Don Army created by General Krasnov. By mid-1918 the Almighty Don Host or the Don Army had 17,000 men; every village sent its own regiment. In July 1918, the Don Army command (up to 45,000 men, 610 heavy machine guns, and more than 150 cannons) intended to completely remove Bolshevik forces from northern areas of the Province of the Don Cossack Host and seize the city of Tsaritsin. On February 2 (February 15), after three failed attempts, Krasnov resigned under pressure from Denikin and joined General Yudenich's North-Western Army deployed in Estonia.

[6] On 13 February, 1945, General Vlasov endorsed the structure of command and control of the CLPR Air Force. Air Force Major General Maltsev was commander of the CLPR air forces. The structure of the CLPR Air Force had a headquarters that included an Operational Department, Security Department, Propaganda Department, Legal Department, Procurement Department, and Medical Department. The Chief of Staff was air force Colonel Vanyushin.
First Air Force Regiment. Included: Colonel Kazakov Fighter Squadron, Schnellbomber Squadron, Aerial Reconnaissance Squadron, Transport Squadron, Pilot School, Engineering and Technical Service, Airfield Maintenance Service. Regiment's commanding officer was Air Force Colonel Baydak.
Flack Regiment. Regiment's commanding officer was Lieutenant Colonel Vasilyev.
Airborne Battalion. Battalion's commanding officer was Lieutenant Colonel Kotsar.
Communications Company.

[7] Lazar Moiseyevich Kaganovich (10 November, 1893–25 July, 1991) was a Soviet politician and administrator. In 1939–1940, he served as Narkom for the Soviet Oil Industry. Since 1942, Kaganovich was Commissar (Member of the Military Council) of the North Caucasian and Transcaucasus Fronts and was involved in defense of the Caucasus, and from 1942 through 1945 he was a GKO member. In 1944 he was appointed Deputy Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars.

[8] The 19th Army was formed from the forces of the North Caucasian Military District on the basis of Directive of the People's Commissar of Defense of the USSR No. 503966 of 22 May, 1941. On 22 June, 1941, it was in the process of redeployment to the area of the city of Belaya Tserkov, Cherkasy. On July 2 it was transferred to the Western Front and was deployed in the area of Vitebsk. It was involved in the Battle of Smolensk. In early October 1941, it was encircled and defeated in the Vyazma region.
Army Commanders in 1941: General Lieutenant Ivan Konev (May–September 1941), General Lieutenant M.F. Lukin (September – October 1941).
On 24 October, 1941, the Chief of Staff of the 19th Army, Vasily Malyshkin, was taken prisoner by a German patrol. At the time of capture, he was wearing civilian clothes and introduced himself as Private Volodin, but later he was identified in a POW camp near Vyazma and transferred to the officer camp near Smolensk, then transferred to the Fürstenberg camp on Oder.

[9] The 32nd Army command was formed on 16 July, 1941, as part of the Moscow Military District in the area of Naro-Fominsk, Kubinka, Dorokhovo. On 18 July, the army was deployed on the Mozhaisk line of defense and at the end of July it was holding a defense line north-west of Mozhaisk. On 30 July, the army joined the Reserve Front, and after restructuring was deployed, on the Mosolovo-Mishutino-Terekhovo-Dorogobuzh line. Since October 3, the 32nd Army fought heavy defensive battles in the Vyazma region, where it was encircled. The Army Field Office was disbanded on 13 October, 1941.
Army commanders in 1941 were: Lieutenant General NK Klykov (July–August 1941); Major-General I. I. Fedyuninsky (August–September 1941); Major General S.V. Vishnevsky (September–October 1941).

[10] The RLA 2nd Infantry Division, without being fully staffed, left the Heuberg training ground in Württemberg and moved to the assembly area of all RLA forces in Bohemia. The rifle regiments had neither guns, nor mortars, nor even a sufficient supply of small arms. The 2nd Division, commanded by Zverev, along with the V. I. Maltsev Air Corps and other RLA reserve units (about 22,000 men in all), went to the area west of Munich. From here they were taken by train to Linz and moved north to meet in Prague. The closest enemy forces were not the Red Army formations, which were still quite far to the east, but the U.S. 3rd Army of General J. Patton, with whom the Vlasov forces began negotiations for surrender. The Americans gave them thirty-six hours to come to a designated place and lay down their arms. Zverev, with the vanguard, was in Kaplice, far from the main forces of the division. He was completely befuddled, since his war-time girlfriend tried to commit suicide by taking a large dose of morphine and was unconscious. Eventually, Zverev and his men were taken prisoner by Soviet troops. Left without command and control, the commanders of the regiments and other units of this group began to surrender to the Americans on their own.

[11] On 22 June, 1941, the 8th Rifle Corps was part of the 26th Army of the Southwestern Front. In August it was defeated.
Brigade commander Mikhail Bogdanov was taken prisoner on 10 August, 1941 when he was trying to break out from the encirclement in the Uman area. He was held in POW camps in Ukraine and Poland, and later until November 1942 he was kept at the XIII-D Hammelburg officer camp, where he agreed to work for the military engineering organization Todt. In the summer of 1943, he was appointed deputy head of the Todt Volga Directorat. In July 1943, Bogdanov established contact with the NKGB (State Security) Major I. G. Pastukhov, who was the head the Minsk-Borisov region partisan, and was given the alias "Gvozd." His assignment was to join the RLA and take over its command by killing or framing General Vlasov.

[12] Alexander Ignatievich Tavantsev (Tovantsev) (27 December, 1899–?) was a Colonel of the Red Army, Colonel of the KONR Armed Forces. In December 1941 he was appointed commander of the 467th Rifle Division, awarded with the Order of the Red Banner; on 24 April, 1942, Commander of the 266th Rifle Division; in May 1942 he was declared MIA. He was held in the Hammelburg camp; in the summer of 1943 he was moved to the RLA Dabendorf school; later he served in the inspectorate of the RLA Major General Blagoveshchensky; in November 1944 he was placed in the officer reserve at the headquarters of the CLPR Armed Forces; in December 1944 he was appointed the head of the combat training department at the CLPR Armed Forces headquarters; in February 1945 he was appointed deputy

head of the combat training department by Major-General V.G. Artsezo at the CLPR Armed Forces headquarters.
On 9 May, 1945, he surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army, and was extradited to the Soviet side.

[13] The 12th Army was created by the order of the People's Commissar of Defense of the USSR No. 0160 of 23 October, 1939, by renaming the 13th Army, which was part of the Kiev Special Military District, deployed in the Carpathian region. In June–July 1940, as part of the Southern Front, it was involved in the Bessarabian campaign. On 22 June, 1941, it was made part of the South-Western Front. In early August 1941, it was encircled and destroyed in the area of Uman.

Commanders of the army in 1939–1941 were: Corps Commander, from June 4, 1940, Lieutenant-General F. A. Parusinov (October 1939 – 10 March, 1941); Major General P. G. Ponedelin (March – August 1941).

[14] Correction: AKKUKS, Artillery Red Banner Advanced Training Courses of the Commanding Staff. The AKKUKS had Luzhsky artillery range, where an independent Howitzer artillery regiment was based. With the beginning of the war the regiment was subordinated to the 177th Rifle Division, and later to the 41st Rifle Corps. In August 1941, the regiment, along with other units of the Luzhskaya Operational Group, was encircled.

[15] The Office of the Representative of the Council of People's Commissars (SNK) of the USSR, Council of Ministers of the USSR for Repatriation Issues was established on October 6, 1944. On 23 October, 1944, the SNK of the USSR approved the Statute on the Representative of the SNK for Repatriation of the USSR and established the staff of the Office and its representative offices abroad. Colonel General F. I. Golikov became the head of the Office. The Office's bodies were engaged in the search for displaced Soviet citizens abroad, ensuring their living conditions in transit camps and repatriation, and dealing with issues of distribution, resettlement, economic and labor adaptation of Soviet repatriates, as well as with repatriation of foreign citizens and their temporary stay in the Soviet transit camps and reception-transfer facilities. The Office included the secretariat, the chancellery, political education department, the department for foreign activities, the department for repatriation of Soviet citizens, the department for repatriation of foreign citizens, the department for registration and accounting, the department for adaptation of returning Soviet citizens, the department for material support (in 1946 divided into financial and economic departments), transportation department, sanitary department, communication department, and operational department. The repatriation groups led by the Commissioner representatives were established headed in Finland, France, Romania, Iran, Italy, Poland (November – December 1944), in Egypt, in the Balkans (Greece, Yugoslavia, Albania), in England, and Belgium. In February 1945, the departments on repatriation were established at the Military Councils of the 1st Baltic, 1st–3rd Belorussian and 1st–4th Ukrainian Fronts. In February–March 1945, special agencies were set up to receive and adapt repatriated Soviet citizens in the RSFSR, the Ukrainian SSR, the Byelorussian SSR, the Latvian SSR, the Lithuanian SSR, the Estonian SSR, and the Moldavian SSR. In March 1946, due to the end of the mass repatriation process of Soviet and foreign citizens, local repatriation agencies in the USSR and abroad were disbanded with the exception of some temporary Commissioner representative offices. On 1 March, 1953, the Office of the

Commissioner was disbanded by the decision of the Council of Ministers of the USSR of 29 December, 1952.

[16] Viktor Semyonovich Abakumov (1908–19 December, 1954), one of the senior officers in the Soviet state security apparatus; Colonel General (1945). February 1941–April 1943, Deputy Commissioner of the USSR People's Commissariat of Internal Affairs (NKVD). July 1941–April 1943, head of the NKVD Internal Affairs Directorate (UOO NKVD). April 1943–April 1946, the head of SMERSH in the USSR People's Commissariat of Defense (Chief Directorate of Counterintelligence); January 1945–July 1945, NKVD Officer-in-Charge of the 3rd Belorussian Front. May 1946–July 1951, USSR Minister of State Security, member of the Politbureau Commission for overseeing court cases. Arrested 12 July, 1951. On December 19, 1954, sentenced to death by the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the Soviet Union. Not rehabilitated.

[17] According to the entries to the logbook of people visiting Stalin's Kremlin office, Andrei Vlasov visited on 11 February from 10.15 P.M. to 11.25 P.M. There were no other visitors at that time. On 8 March, Vlasov visited the office along with Boris Shaposhnikov, Alexander Vasilevsky, Pavel Zhigarev, Alexander Novikov, and Alexander Golovanov at 10.10 P.M. He left the office at 12.00 A.M. along with the four latter Generals. At the moment of their visit, in the office there were already present Kliment Voroshilov, Vyacheslav Molotov, Lavrenty Beria, and Georgy Malenkov.

[18] The Propaganda Department of the High Command of the Wehrmacht (HCW) was established in April 1939. Its Chief was Colonel Hasso von Wedel. The Department carried out general management of the Wehrmacht propaganda units: it made appointments, handled technical issues, and developed guidelines and directions for major propaganda actions. The department also strove to influence public opinion inside the Reich and abroad on the issues involving the interests of the Wehrmacht or the defense of the country. To the department were subordinated special military units, propaganda companies spreading propaganda among the German population and military personnel ("propaganda to the motherland"), propaganda in the army ("front propaganda"), and propaganda directed to the armed forces and civilian population of the enemy countries ("propaganda on the enemy"). Propaganda companies were attached to every field army, tank group, and air fleet.

[19] Wilfried Karl Strik-Strikfeldt (1897–7 June, 1977) was a Russian and a German military officer. From 1924 through 1939 he lived in Riga and represented German and British companies. In late 1939 he was "repatriated" to Poznan (Posen). In 1941–1945 he was an interpreting and officer of Wehrmacht, working closely with General Vlasov.

[20] Hilger Gustaw (10 September, 1886–27 July, 1965) was a German diplomat. From 1923 through 1941 he was an official of the German Embassy in the USSR, interpreting for Molotov and Ribbentrop during the negotiations on Soviet-German Non-Aggression Pact. From 1941 through 1945 he was working in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, repeatedly met General Vlasov, and was in charge of liaising with the KONR in the FAM. In May 1945 he was arrested by Americans in Salzburg, transferred to the U.S., and was held in jail in Fort-Mead, working there with the U.S. special services. In January 1946 he returned to Germany.

[21] The Supreme Naval School of Naval Air Defense was established in 1941 on the basis of senior officer training courses for naval reserve officers by suggestion

of the People's Commissar of the Navy N. G. Kuznetsov and was directly subordinated to him. The school was stationed at the naval base in Libava (now Liepāja, Latvia). In April 1941, I. A. Blagoveshchensky became the head of the school. At the end of June, Major General of the Coast Service Blagoveshchensky was appointed head of the defense of the north-eastern sector of the beleaguered Libava. On 6 July, 1941, while trying to break through the encirclement, he was taken prisoner by Latvian militia Aizsargi.

[22] Pavel Grigoryevich Ponedelin (4 March, 1893–25 August, 1950) was a Major General of the Red Army. On March 11, 1941, he was appointed Commander of the 12th Army of the Kiev Special Military District. On 7 August, 1941, he was taken prisoner. In 1941, the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the USSR sentenced him to death. 29 April, 1945, he was freed by U.S. troops; on 6 March, 1945, he was extradited to the USSR; on 30 December, 1945, he was arrested and imprisoned in Lefortovo prison. 25 August, 1950, he was executed by firing squad. On 13 March, 1956, he was rehabilitated.

[23] Mikhail Georgievich Snegov (12 November, 1896–25 April, 1960) was a Major General of the Red Army. On March 11, 1941, he was appointed Commander of the 12th Army of the Kiev Special Military District. On 6 April, 1940 he was promoted to the rank of Major General. On 8 June, 1941, while being shell-shocked, he was taken prisoner, moved to Germany and held in POW camps. On 5 April, 1945 he was released by American troops, repatriated to the USSR, and reinstated to his former rank.

[24] Heinz Hellmich (1890–16 June, 1944) was a Lieutenant General in the Wehrmacht. From June 1940 through April 1, 1942, he was Commander of the 23rd Infantry Division, fighting in the French Campaign and on the Eastern Front. On 1 April, 1942, Hellmich was appointed commander of the 141st Reserve Division. On 15 December, 1942, he was appointed General Inspector of the OKH Eastern Troops. In January 1944, Hellmich was moved to France and put in a command of the 243rd Infantry Division. Hellmich was killed in Cherbourg on 17 June, 1944, during the Allied invasion of Normandy.

[25] Ernst Busch (6 July, 1885 – 17 July, 1945) was a German Field Marshal. On 22 October, 1939 he was appointed commander of the 16th Army. The Army fought against France and the Soviet Union. On 19 July, 1940 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel General, and on 1 February, 1943 to Field Marshal. From 12 October, 1943 through 27 June, 1944, he was commander of the Army Group Centre. On 20 March, 1945 he became head of Army Group Northwest. On 4 May, 1945, he surrendered to the British troops.

[26] Sergius, Metropolitan of Vilna and Lithuania (born Dmitry Nikolaevich Voskresensky) (26 October, 1897–29 April, 1944), Bishop of the Russian Orthodox Church, Metropolitan of Vilna and Lithuania, who, on 24 February, 1941, became Patriarchal Exarch of the Baltic region. In 1940, he achieved reunification of the bishops of the territories that became part of the USSR under the Treaty of Non-aggression between Germany and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics with the Moscow Patriarchate: first in Poland, and later he was sent to the Baltic States (Latvia and Estonia) for the same purpose. On 24 February, 1941, he became Metropolitan of Vilna and Lithuania, Exarch of Latvia and Estonia. When the German army occupied the Baltic states, he stayed with his flock in the city of Riga. When the Baltic region became a part of the Reichskommissariat Ostland, he reinforced the Moscow Patriarchat's control over the Baltic region: he consecrated

two energetic bishops and opened theological-pastoral courses in Vilna. In August 1941 he assembled and sent to Pskov an Orthodox mission, a group of priests who led the revival of religious life in these territories. Despite the displeasure of the German authorities, he retained nominal canonical subordination to the Moscow Patriarchate, headed by the Patriarch's locum tenens, Metropolitan (since September 1943 Patriarch) Sergius (Stragorodsky). On 23 July, 1942, he convened a bishop meeting of the Exarchate in Riga, which sent a welcome cable to Adolf Hitler, made a public statement dissociating himself from the position taken by the patriarchate. In late November 1942, the Exarch convened in the town of Dno a meeting of the Orthodox clergy of the Leningrad Region's revived parishes, which also condemned the pro-Soviet position of the patriarchate and approved the new regime. In less than two and a half years, he succeeded in reviving more than 300 parishes. Because of his rather independent policy Metropolitan Sergius lost the support of the occupation authorities by the end of 1943. He was killed on 29 April, 1944, while on the way from Vilnius to Kaunas, by people in German uniform.

[27] This refers to Heinrich Himmler speeches in Posen (Poznan) on 4 and 6 October, 1943, and 14 October in Bad-Schachen, in which he sharply criticized the use of Vlasov for propaganda purposes: "… and then comes the ideas of Mr. Vlasov: Germany has never defeated Russia. Only Russians can defeat Russia. And for this purpose, the Russian pig Mr. General Vlasov offers his services. And now some of our elders would like to hand over their multi-million army into the hands of this man. … so that he might go against Russia, and maybe one day… and against us." (Heinrich Himmler Geheimreden 1933 bis 1945 und andere Ansprachen. Frankfurt/Main; Berlin; Wien, 1974. S. 163–165).

[28] In July 1943 V. F. Malyshkin delivered a report on the basics of the liberation movement at a meeting of Russian émigrés in the Paris Hall of Wagram.

Malyshkin's speech, published in the Russian-language newspaper "Parizhsky Vestnik," was very positively received among émigrés, because it set out the theses on Russia's national integrity implying that it would be impossible to "destroy Bolshevism without the ideological participation of the Russian people themselves."

[29] After the Don and Kuban regions were occupied, the German command began to form Cossack units led by former colonel of the Tsarist Army S. V. Pavlov. In November 1942, Lieutenant-General Krasnov, ataman of the Don Cossacks who during the Civil War lived in Berlin, sent Pavlov a letter in which he gave a number of recommendations regarding organizing insurgent activities and the formation of Cossack units.

With the beginning of the retreat of the German troops in January 1943, some of the Cossacks with their families and the Orthodox priests also moved west. In mid-1943, in Kirovograd, Pavlov initiated formation of two regiments, and at the end of the year he received permission from the German command to assemble Cossack refugees. Up to 3,000 people gathered in Kirovograd, and about 7,000 in Proskurov. The creation of the Cossack camp (Kosakenlager) began under the declaration of the German government of 10 November, 1943, which determined the location for its placement, first in the region of Balino Kamenetz-Podolsk. The arriving Cossacks were distributed in the Don, Kuban and Terek villages (stanitsas), and the priests settled there as well. Elected village atamans and governing bodies reported to the Camp Field Ataman Pavlov. With the formation of the Main Directorate of the Cossack troops led by Krasnov, Pavlov became a

member of its leadership. After the death of the latter, the former White Guard sotnik (lieutenant of Cossack troops) Domanov became the new Camp Field Ataman.

In July 1944, the Cossack camp was move to the Polish region of Bialystok, where it remained for three months. Eventually, it was decided to move the Camp to northeastern Italy. There, after the fall of the fascist regime, the Germans created a special province, the Adriatic Coast. However, they were disturbed by the constant attacks of the communist partisan brigades "Garibaldi" and "Ozoppo". The Cossacks who arrived in Italy pushed the Italian partisans into the mountains. The Italian towns where the Cossacks settled were renamed in stanitsas, and the town of Alesso, the center of the Cossack settlements was renamed in Novocherkassk, local residents were evicted (for example, in Alesso the only Italians left were a baker and a translator.)

According to the Major General Domanov report, by April 1945 the population of the Camp was 31,630 people, including 18,060 soldiers (privates, non-commissioned officers, and officers), and 13,570 civilians (including the elderly, women and children). The reinforcement came from the Reserve of the Cossack troops, led by Lieutenant-General Shkuro. In early February 1945, the General Directorate of the Cossack troops was transferred from Berlin to Carnia. They were joined by about five thousand Caucasians under the command of General Sultan-Girey Klych, who also moved to Carnia.

[30] Georg Karl Friedrich Wilhelm von Küchler (30 May, 1881–25 May, 1968) was a German Field Marshal (1942) who fought in World War II. He commanded the 18th Army, which, as a part of the Army Group North, took part in the siege of Leningrad. On 17 January, 1942, Küchler became commander of Army Group North. In January 1944, the Soviet troops inflicted heavy casualties to the Army Group North, and von Küchler was forced to retreat. On 31 January, 1944, Küchler was relieved of his command and never held senior positions in Wehrmacht again.

[31] Reinhard Gehlen (3 April, 1902–8 June, 1979) was a German Major General and chief of the Wehrmacht intelligence unit in the Eastern Front. In the fall of 1940, he became the head of operational group at the Wehrmacht General Staff. 1 April, 1942, Gehlen assumed command of the Fremde Heere Ost (FHO) section of the Staff. On 22 May, 1945, he surrendered to the American troops.

[32] Refers to SS Obersturmführer and war correspondent Edwin Erich Dwinger's writings "The Russian state and new order in Europe" and "What needs to happen at the moment to overthrow Stalin's system?" (July 1943), which provide a detailed assessment of Vlasov's activities (See: Military Archives Division of the German Federal Archives (Freiburg) (BA-MA). RH 2/2558, Bl. 115–142).

[33] Baldur Benedikt von Schirach (9 May, 1907–8 August, 1974) was the Nazi Party National Youth leader and the head of the Hitler Youth (Germ. *Jugendführer des Deutsches Reiches*.) He enforced education of German youth in the spirit of anti-Semitism and Nazi ideology and set the militaristic tone of the youth organization, which participated in military-style exercises, as well as practicing the use of military equipment. From 7 August, 1940 through 1945, he served as Gauleiter. In 1940 he was appointed Reichskomissar in charge of defense of the 17th Military District, which included Vienna as well as the Upper and Lower Danube districts. Schirach was responsible for sending 60,000 remaining Jews from Vienna to Nazi concentration camps. On 28 September, 1941, he became the President of the Great German Society of Bibliophiles. On 29 June, 1942, he became a member of the

Senate of the German Academy of Science. At the Nuremberg trials he pleaded guilty in crimes against humanity and was sentenced to 20 years of jail.

[34] This refers to the attempt to assassinate Hitler on 20 July, 1944, organized by the Wehrmacht top brass. Colonel Claus von Stauffenberg brought the bomb to Hitler's headquarters, but the attempt failed, Hitler survived, and the conspirators were executed.

[35] The 6th Army was created on 28 September, 1939, by renaming the Eastern Army Group, and it became part of the Ukrainian Front during the Polish campaign. Then it was part of the Kiev Special Military District, stationed in Western Ukraine. On 22 June, 1941, it was transferred to the South-Western Front. In early August 1941, it was encircled and destroyed in the area of Uman.

[36] The Protectorate of Bohemia and Moravia (Germ. *Protektorat Böhmen und Mähren*; Czech *Protektorát Čechy a Morava*) was a puppet statelet established by the Nazi Germany on the eve of the Second World War on the occupied territories of Bohemia, Moravia and Czech Silesia populated by ethnic Czechs. On 10 October, 1938, when Czechoslovakia was forced to accept the terms of the Munich Agreement, Germany incorporated the Sudetenland, with its majority of ethnic German inhabitants, directly into the Reich. Five months later, when Slovakia declared its independence, Hitler summoned Czechoslovak President Emil Hácha to Berlin and intimidated him into accepting the German occupation of the Czech lands. On 15 March, 1939, Bohemia and Moravia were declared a German protectorate by Hitler's personal decree. The head of executive power in the Protectorate was the Reichsprotektor, who was appointed by Hitler Konstantin von Neurath; the first Reichsprotektor was appointed on 21 March, 1939. The Propectorate ceased to exist after Nazi Germany's capitulation.

[37] In August 1938, the II (German) Department of the ROVS, headed by Major General von Lampe, was unbundled in an independent organization "Association of Russian military unions" (ORVS). The reason for separation was the demand of the German authorities to cease activities of organizations subordinate to foreign centers on the territory of the Third Reich. The ORVS was subordinated to the Office of the Russian Emigration Affairs, headed by General Biskupsky.

With the annexation of the Czech lands by the German Reich in May 1939, the former VI Division of the ROVS (Czechoslovakia) was integrated in the ORVS as the South-Eastern Division. By 1941, four of the six European divisions ended up in the German-controlled territories. As a result, the head of the ROVS, General Arkhangelsky, turned to von Lampe with a request to temporarily subordinate the divisions IV (Yugoslavia) and V (Belgium) to the German division.

[38] Ivan Nikitich Kononov (2 February, 1900–15 September, 1967), Major of the Red Army, Major General of the CLPR Armed Forces. In 15 August, 1940, he became commander of the 436th Rifle Regiment of the 155th Rifle Division of the Transcaucasia Special Military District. On 22 August, 1941, he defected to the Wehrmacht's side; on 28 October, 1941, he formed the 102nd Don Cossack Regiment in the Wehrmacht (600th Don Cossack Battalion); in 1942 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of Wehrmacht; in July 1943 he became Colonel of Wehrmacht, and in January 1944 was awarded the Iron Cross 2nd class. He managed to escape forcible repatriation.

[39] Helmuth von Pannwitz (14 October, 1898–16 January, 1947) was a German general who was a cavalry officer during the First and the Second World Wars. Later he became Lieutenant General of the Wehrmacht and of the Waffen-SS, SS-

Obergruppenführer, and Field Ataman of the Cossack Camp (Kosakenlager). On 4 September, 1941, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and awarded with the Knight's Cross of the Iron Cross. Pannwitz's troops successfully repelled the Soviet offensive in the North Caucasus in the winter of 1942–1943. The "von Pannwitz Battle Group" included Cossack cavalry and foot-borne troops, a tank detachment, a Romanian cavalry brigade, Romanian motorized heavy artillery battery, separate rear units, and several anti-aircraft guns. Starting from 15 November, 1942, the Battle Group destroyed the 61st Rifle Division and 81st Cavalry Division of the Red Army, which had broken through the front line in the northeast of Kotelnikov. For this operation Helmut von Pannwitz was awarded with the Oak Leaves for his Knight's Cross on 23 December, 1942. In March 1943 in the town of Mielau (Mlawe), he was appointed commander of the 1st Cossack Cavalry Division, formed from Cossack units attached to German troops. In June 1943 he was promoted to the rank of Major General, and in April 1944 to the rank of Lieutenant General. Since October 1943, the Pannwitz Cossack Division fought in Croatia against the Tito partisans. On 1 February, 1945, when the corps was reassigned to the SS troops, Pannwitz received the rank of SS Gruppenführer and Lieutenant General of SS troops. The Cossack division under his command was upgraded to the XV Cossack Cavalry SS Corps, which, on 20 April, 1945, was reassigned to KONR. In 1945 he became the Ataman of the Cossack camp (the Supreme Ataman, the highest rank in the Cossack hierarchy). On 11 May, 1945, he reviewed the Don Cossack regiment's parade and surrendered to the British troops, who extradited him to the USSR. He was hanged by the verdict of the Supreme Council of the USSR of 15 – 16 January, 1947. On 22 April, 1996, he was rehabilitated; on 28 June, 2011, the rehabilitation was revoked.

[40] This refers to the Cossack congress in Virovitica (Croatia), convened on the initiative of Ivan Kononov, commander of the Plastun brigade, which was part of the 15th Cossack Cavalry Corps of the SS. Kononov laid out the following program of action at the congress. All Cossack units should immediately submit to General Vlasov as commander in chief of the CLPR Armed Forces. German officers who do not understand the Cossacks' aspirations should be removed from the units. The main directorates of the Cossack troops should be disbanded, and General Krasnov should be dismissed. The Cossacks establish contacts with Draža Mihailović's Chetniks. All Cossack formations should be brought together to create a shock army. The Declaration on Cossacks' military goals should be published in all languages.

The congress decided to adopt the program and elected the commander of the corps, Lieutenant General von Pannwitz, as the Field Ataman, the first foreigner who was honored with this rank. The congress decided to establish von Pannwitz; headquarters, and Kononov was appointed its chief of staff.

[41] Viktor Mikhailovich Baydalakov (19 April, 1900 – 19 July, 1967) was a Russian political and military leader, veteran of the Civil War and of the White movement in Southern Russia. In 1934 – 1935 he was Chairman of the Council of the National Labor Alliance of the New Generation (NTSNP). In 1944, he was arrested by the Gestapo and imprisoned in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp. He was released in April 1945 after General Vlasov interceded on his behalf. After the war, he moved to the United States.

Dmitry Viktorovich Brunst (1909 – 1970), white emigrant, an active member of the anti-Soviet organization the National Labor Alliance of the New Generation

(NTSNP). During the war he worked on the radio station; in 1943 – 1944 he was a teacher in the camp of the Eastern Ministry Wustrau. In June 1944, he was arrested by the Gestapo again. He was released in April 1945 after General Vlasov interceded on his behalf. He served at the headquarters of the CLPR Armed Forces. In May 1945, he was arrested by the Soviet authorities, was convicted, and spent several years in GULAG camps.

Kirill Dmitrievich Vergun (1907 – 1945) was a member of the NTS Executive Bureau. In 1941 he moved to Berlin. In 1944, he was arrested by the Gestapo. He was released in 1945 after General Vlasov interceded on his behalf. He died during the aerial bombardment of Pilsen (Plzen).

[42] This refers to the Ukrainian National Committee (UNK) which was created in the fall of 1944 by initiative of Ukrainian organizations and political activists: President of the Ukrainian People's Republic (UNR) in exile Mykola (Nikolai) Livytsky, Ukrainian Civil Committee (organizations of Ukrainians from central and eastern lands), and the Ukrainian Central Committee (led by V. Kubiyovich). The creation of the UNK was supported by all Ukrainian political parties, including by both factions of the OUN.

Pavlo Shandruk, who was the Junior Captain of the Tsarist Army, Lieutenant General of the UNR Army, and Colonel of the Polish Army, was the Committee head. After being released from German captivity in 1940, Shandruk lived until 1944 in the territory of the General Governorate (Poland) as a private individual.

In March 1945, the committee was recognized by Alfred Rosenberg as a sole representation of the Ukrainian nation. He ordered to put under the UNK command all Ukrainian military formations created as part of the German troops, thus forming the Ukrainian National Army led by Lieutenant General Shandruk. The Ukrainian National Army included the 1st Ukrainian Division, formed from the 14th Waffen-SS Grenadier Volunteer Division, and the 2nd Ukrainian Division, created from the remnants of the Ukrainian Liberation Army.

The Ukrainian National Council, established within the CLPR framework, was headed by Professor Bogatyrchuk.

[43] Abdurrahman Fatalibeyli Dudanginsky (June 12, 1908 – November 1954) was a Red Army Major, the head of the Azerbaijan National Committee. In 1940 he was Chief of the 6th Stall of the Leningrad Military District and awarded with the Red Star medal. In 1941 he was taken prisoner and joined the Wehrmacht. He was commander of the 1st Azerbaijani battalion #804. In 1945 he was taken prisoner by British troops. After his release, he lived in Italy, Egypt, and West Germany.

[44] Martin Bormann (17 June, 1900 – 2 May, 1945) was a prominent official in Nazi Germany. In May 1941 he was appointed the head of the Nazi Party Chancellery; on 12 April, 1942 he was appointed Hitler's personal secretary; on 2 June, 1933 he became Reichsleiter, Reichsminister, SA-Obergruppenführer, an honorary SS-Obergruppenführer, the last NSDAP leader, the Hitler's closest adviser. He disappeared in May 1945. He was tried at Nuremberg in absentia and sentenced to death as one of the main military criminals.

[45] The first Wehrmacht Kalmyk military units were formed in September 1942. The commander of the 16th Motorized Division, General Heinrici, created in Elista a Kalmyk cavalry squadron from the local population and Red Army POWs. By November, there were already four such squadrons. The German headquarters, headed by the Sonderführer Rudolf Verba, was in command of these squadrons. By the beginning of the German retreat, the number of Kalmyk squadrons had

reached ten. Squadrons were used to patrol sections of the front that were not occupied by German troops, to attack individual Soviet garrisons, and to fight against partisans. In May 1943, several new units were built in the Kherson area from refugees, prisoners of war, and defectors. In August, all these units were merged into the Kalmyk cavalry corps (four divisions with five squadrons in each). Another five squadrons operated in the Soviet rear as partisans. In the fall of 1943 the corps was used to protect communications on the right bank of the Dnieper. As of July 1944, there were 3,600 fighters (including 92 German officers: from two to four per squadron) and 4,600 horses. The command of the corps units was originally in the hands of Kalmyk officers, but they were soon replaced by German officers.

In 1944 – 1945 the corps suffered heavy losses in battles against the Red Army in Western Ukraine and Poland. The Kalmyk Cavalry Regiment formed in the last weeks of the war (though without horses) was sent to Croatia, where it became part of the 3rd Plastun Division of the 15th Cossack Cavalry Corps.

[46] The Don Cossack Army (Republic) was re-established in the occupied territory of the Soviet Union under the German auspices in September 1942. The Cossack assembly elected in Novocherkassk the headquarters of the Don Army. Colonel Pavlov was elected its Field Ataman. The "Don Army (Republic) Declaration" stated: "in 1918 the Almighty Don Host restored its historical sovereignty, violated by Tsar Peter I in 1709, expressed its statehood in the Don Constitution and for three years (1918 – 1920) defended its ancestral territory from the invasion of the Soviet army. Germany de facto recognized existence of the Don Republic, which had a territory, the Legislature elected by all the people (the Krug), the Government, and the Army … now the Don Army declares restoration of its independence and reinstates its statehood."

In 1943, when the Red Army troops liberated Novocherkassk and Rostov, the Cossack troops retreated to Ukraine. According to Kirill Aleksandrov, they included: 135,850 Don Cossacks; 93,957 Kuban Cossacks; 23,520 Terek Cossacks; 11,865 Stavropol Cossacks; 31,578 North Caucasians; 15,780 Kalmyks. The total number of refugees was 312,550. (Aleksandrov K.M. *Kazachestvo Rossii vo Vtoroy mirovoi voyne*) p. 164.

As for the first wave of Cossack emigration, the Kuban, Terek, Astrakhan and Don Cossack Armies nominally continued to exist abroad (the latter, however, split into two parts in the 1930s). By early 1945, most of the Cossacks supported the idea of joining the "Russian Liberation Movement," since the Prague manifesto of the CLPR provided for the right of all peoples of Russia (including the Cossacks) to self-determination. In February 1945, the CLPR established the Directorate of the Cossack troops and the Council of the Cossack troops as its integral part. The Council included the Don, Kuban, and Terek Atamans, as well as representatives of the Orenburg, Ural, Astrakhan, Siberian, Semirechensk, Trans-Baikal, Amur and Ussuri Cossacks. The members of the Council were at the same time members of the KONR and were reporting to General Vlasov, as commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces and chairman of the CLPR. The chairman of the Cossack Army Council was elected Field Ataman of the Don Army General Lieutenant Tatarkin.

[47] The brigade began to be built in the fall of 1942 in the town of Lokot, Brasovsky district of the Orel region, from the battalions of "people's militia" created in February 1942, to fight against Soviet partisans. By the end of 1942, it had ten thousand men and was composed of 14 rifle battalions. The head of the

brigade, Bronislav Kaminsky, called his troops the Russian People's Liberation Army (RPLA). In early March 1943, RONA fought against the advancing units of the Red Army and suffered heavy losses. In July, the 3rd and 5th Regiments of the RPLA were fighting along with German troops in the Dmitrovsk-Orlovsky area. On August 5, when the Lokotsky District was under threat from the Soviet troops, Kaminsky ordered the evacuation of the RPLA and the civilians of the district to the area of the town of Lepel, Vitebsk Region of Belorus. At the end of August 1943, when the brigade arrived in Belarus, it was given the task of securing rear communication lines of the 3rd Panzer Army and they fought against the Soviet partisans. By that time, defections from the brigade to the partisans had become frequent. In the spring of 1944, in the area between Minsk and Lepel, the Kaminsky brigade was involved in a number of large German anti-partisan operations. At the end of June 1944, the brigade was evacuated to Germany, incorporated into the SS forces, and reorganized in the RPLA assault brigade (SS-Schturmbrigade RPLA). On July 31, Kaminsky was received by the SS Reichsführer Himmler and awarded the Iron Cross 1st class, promoted to the rank of Brigadenführer and Major General of the SS. On August 1, the brigade was reorganized into the 29th Grenadier Division of the SS forces (Russian Division #1). In August 1944, the composite regiment of the RPLA under the command of Obershurtmbannführer Frolov was involved in suppression of the Warsaw uprising. On August 21, Kaminsky left for the headquarters of the Wehrmacht, which was engaged in suppressing the uprising in Warsaw, and went missing. In October – November 1944, the brigade was sent to Münsingen, where it was integrated in the 600th Infantry Division (1st Division of the CLPR forces).

[48] Samuil Trofimovich (Semyon Mikhailovich) Koyda (5 May, 1901 – ?) was a Colonel of the Red Army, Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 4 September, 1939, he became commander first of the 735th and then of the 457th Rifle Regiments of the 222nd Rifle Division. On 19 May, 1942, he was promoted to the rank of Colonel and appointed Commander of the 184th Infantry Division. In March 1943 he was taken prisoner; in 1944 he joined the Vlasov movement; in December 1944 he became Commander of the CLPR reserve brigade. On 8 May, 1945, he surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd American Army. He managed to avoid forced repatriation: he was interned in the Ganaker camp (near Landau), from whence he fled to Munich.

[49] This refers to Army Group Oberrhein (from January 1945, Army Group Vistula).

After the unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Hitler on 20 July, 1944, Heinrich Himmler replaced General Fromm linked with the plotters and became commander-in-chief of the reserve. After the declaration of total mobilization in July 1944, Himmler began creation of 22 people's-grenadier divisions. In addition, under his command were placed 38 SS divisions, 4 SS brigades, 10 SS legions, and several dozen other SS units, which were formerly operatively subordinated to the army command.

In the end of December 1944, the troops under Himmler's command launched the Operation North Wind in order to regain Alsace. Initially, the Army Group was successful and its troops approached Strasbourg. However, soon the Allied armies pushed back the German forces, forcing them to cross the Rhine. On the Eastern Front, as a result of the Soviet offensive in Pomerania, the Vistula Army Group

suffered a major defeat. In late March, Colonel-General Heinrici replaced Himmler as commander of Army Group Vistula.

[50] This refers to German-Soviet Lipetsk pilot school, established in July 1925. Structurally the school was divided into headquarters, two classes (fighters and spotters), a test unit, and administrative services. The school was headed by Major Walter Star (1925 – 1930), Major Max Mohr (1930 – 1931) and Captain Gottlob Müller (1931 – 1933). The flight instructors were W. Junk and K. von Schönebek. In the summer, ground personnel numbered over 200 men (about 140 Germans), while in the winter the number of personnel decreased (about 40 Germans). In 1932, the total number of personnel of the facility reached more than three hundred people, including 43 German and 26 Soviet cadets. The practical training course for pilots included practicing air combat, bombing from various positions, and studying aircraft weapons and equipment. The pilot course lasted for about six months. The leadership of the Reichswehr strictly controlled all the details of the activities of joint structures in the USSR, and special attention was paid to secrecy. During their stay in the Soviet Union, German officers were excluded from the list of the Reichswehr and wore the Soviet uniform without insignia. About 2 million marks were allocated for the maintenance of the school annually. The facility was closed in August – September 1933, and from January of the following year, the Higher Tactical School of the Red Army Air Force took over the Soviet-German school facilities. In just eight years, over one hundred and twenty German fighter pilots and one hundred observer pilots (spotters) were trained at the school.

[51] Konstantin Anatolyevich Sokolov (1915 – ?) was a Soviet security officer; in 1949 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel. In July 1940 – April 1942 he was an investigator and senior investigator of the NKVD-NKGB-NKVD of the Estonian SSR. In April 1942 – May 1943 he was an investigator and senior investigator of the 1st and 2nd Divisions of the NKVD USSR investigative department. In May 1943 – May 1946 he was the deputy chief of the Chief Counterintelligence Directorate SMERSH's 6th Division's 2nd Department.

[52] The scientific council of the CLPR was divided in several sections, had about a hundred members, and was headed by professor of hydraulics I. I. Mokvitinov. The Council was tasked with the further development of the ideas of the KONR Prague Manifesto.

[53] The International Red Cross Movement consists of several independent organizations: The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) created in 1863, The International Federation of Red Cross Societies (IFRC) founded in 1919, and National Red Cross, Red Crescent, and Red Lion and Sun Societies. ICRC's headquarters is in Geneva. The main goal of these societies is to protect human life and health, to ensure respect for all human beings, and to prevent and alleviate human suffering; as a neutral mediator, they provide humane assistance during armed conflicts.

[54] Boris Vasilyevich Vlasov (1906 – ?) was a Major of the Red Army, Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. Chief of the operational division of the 253rd Rifle Division's headquarters. On 27 May, 1942, he was taken prisoner near Kharkov. In early 1943 he joined the RLA, was sent to the RLA Dabendorf school, and was in charge of the drill and physical training of cadets. He was a member of various admission commissions which selected volunteers for courses; in November 1943, he became the head of RLA preparatory courses; in the summer of 1944, he was the head of propagandists in the recreation center for RLA officers in

Frankfurt an der Oder, and later he was appointed the head of RLA preparatory courses; in May 1945 he became commander of the supply regiment of the CLPR Armed Forces' 2nd Infantry Division. In April 1945, he served with the CLPR Armed Forces Southern Group; on 5 September, 1945, he went to the American zone northeast of Kaplice-Krumau. He was held in the Ganaker camp, but in August 1945 he fled the camp. His fate is unknown.

55 Andrei Dmitrievich Arkhipov (13 March, 1893 – 1 May, 1979) was a Colonel of the Russian Army, Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. In 1924 he joined the ROVS. In June 1941, with the ROVS help he went to the Eastern Front. In 1942–1943 he commanded a company of the anti-partisan volunteer battalion; in June 1943 he was in the RLA Dabendorf School, where he became commander of the 2nd Company and later of the Cadet Battalion. In November 1944 he became commander of the 1st Grenadier regiment of the KONR Armed Forces' 1st Division. He fought in the battle for Prague. Eventually, he emigrated to the United States.

56 Nikolai Ivanovich Sadovnikov (20 May, 1904 – ?) was a Major of the Red Army and Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. In 1941 he was a Captain, senior assistant to head of Primorskaya Army headquarters' operational department. On 24 February, 1942, he was promoted to the rank of Major. In July 1942 he was taken prisoner. In December 1942, he was sent to the propaganda officer courses in Wuhlheide. In April 1943 he became a company commander in the RLA Dabendorf School; in November 1944 he became assistant to the operational department chief of the CLPR Armed Forces headquarters; on 1 March, 1945, he was appointed commander of an infantry regiment of the CLPR Armed Forces' 2nd Infantry Division. In January 1945, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR armed forces; in March 1945, he became the Chief of Staff of the CLPR Armed Forces' reserve brigade, led by Colonel Koydy. On 8 May, 1945, he surrendered to American troops. He was extradited to the Soviet occupation zone. In January 1947 he was sentenced to a ten-year jail term by the Yaroslavl garrison military tribunal of the Moscow Military District. His fate is unknown.

Mikhail Borisovich Nikiforov (3 February, 1901 – ?) was a Major of the Red Army and Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR. In 17 September, 1939, he was appointed the head of administrative branch of the 61st Rifle Corps. In 1941 he was taken prisoner. In June 1943 he became a teacher of Russian history in the RLA Dabendorf school, and in November 1944 he was appointed deputy of a department chief in the unit of Colonel Denisov. In the spring of 1945 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. In May 1945 he commander of the reconnaissance battalion of the CLPR Armed Forces 2nd Infantry Division. His fate is unknown.

57 Nikolai Grigorievich Shtifanov (aliases Ivanov, Pershin) (1913 – 1974) was a Senior Lieutenant of the Red Army, a teacher, and an engineer by training. He was a member of the NTS and a teacher at the Wustrau camp. In March 1943 he became a chief instructor in Dabendorf. He wrote the book "The Truth about Bolshevism." In 1945 he was arrested and sent to the USSR. He managed to escape and worked in coal mines in Belgium.

58 Andrei Nikitich Sevastyanov (1887 – 10 March, 1947) was a Brigade Commander of the Red Army and a Major General of the CLPR Armed Forces. In 1938 he went into hiding; in June, 1941 he joined the people's militia of the 226th Rifle Division. On 18 September, 1941, he was taken prisoner; in July 1942 he was

sent to the propaganda officer courses; later he was appointed the head of the higher Russian-German school for technical experts and the head of the Volga Construction Administration near Borisov. In December 1943 he was promoted to the rank of a RLA Major General; in January 1944 he served at the Inspectorate of the RLA Major General; in November 1944 he became the head of the Logistics Department at the CLPR Armed Forces headquarters. On 9 May, 1945, he surrendered to the soldiers of the 3rd U.S. Army's 26th Infantry Division. On 14 February, 1946, he was extradited by Americans to the Soviet authorities, and on 2 October, 1947, he was sentenced to death and was executed on 3 October, 1947.

[59] Ilya Danilovich Denisov (1 August, 1901 – ?) was a Colonel of the Red Army and a Colonel of the KONR Armed Forces. On 17 July, 1941, he was sent to the North-Western Front; on 24 August, 1941, he became commander of the 1st RRfle regiment of the 2nd People's Militia Rifle Division. In September 1941, he was taken prisoner near Leningrad; in late 1943 he joined the RLA and was sent the RLA Dabendorf school; in April 1944 he became the head of propaganda officers serving in the RLA volunteer battalions and in POW camps in France, Denmark, and Italy; in June 1944 he was appointed the head of the RLA Dabendorf school administrative department; in December 1944 he was the head of Formations Department at CLPR Armed Forces Headquarters. On 9 May, 1945, he surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army. He was held in US POW camps, commanding the consolidated officer battalion of the CLPR Armed Forces. He was extradited to the USSR. In the fall of 1945 he was sentenced to 10 years in jail; in September 1955 he was released.

Grigory Vasilyevich Yaropud (Gnedich) (24 July, 1907 – ?) was a Red Army military engineer of the 2nd rank and Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 4 November, 1940 he served in the Main Military Construction Directorate of the Council of People's Commissars of the Soviet Union. In 1941 he was ordered to active duty in the Red Army again. In the summer of 1941 he was taken prisoner. He was held in Hammelburg POW camp. In the fall he joined the RLPP. In 1942 he was sent to the propaganda officer courses in Wuhlheide; in April 1943 he was in the RLA Dabendorf school. After graduation, he became a propaganda officer in one of the POW camps; February – March 1944 he was appointed the head of RLA propaganda officers groups and a senior inspector of the Wehrmacht Southern Group of Forces in Romania; in 1944 he was promoted to the rank of Colonel of the CLPR armed forces; in December 1944 he was appointed the head of the engineering department of the KONR armed forces headquarters. On 9 May, 1945 he surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army. He was held in American POW camps; in 1945 – 1948 he lived in the western occupation zones of Germany.

[60] Boris Nikolayevich Polozov (1 April, 1888 – 23 October, 1966) was a Major General. In 1921 – 1941 he lived in Yugoslavia. In 1942 he joined the Russian Corps, and in the spring of 1944 he joined the RLA; in June 1944 he served in the 1st Wehrmacht Cossack cavalry division; in 16 November, 1944, he joined the Cossack camp (Kosakenlager). In the autumn of 1944, he was arrested for campaigning for the transfer of the 1st Cossack cavalry division from Wehrmacht to the RLA and expelled from Croatia to Italy. On 4 February, 1945, he was arrested and banished from the Cossack camp. From 4 February through 28 March, 1945, he served at the headquarters of the Cossack troops at the headquarters of the RLA commander;

from 28 March through May 1945, Inspector-General of the Cossack troops under the commander in chief of the CLPR Armed Forces. He died in Buenos Aires.

[61] Andrei Georgievich Neryanin (Nyryanin) (alias Mikhail Andreevich Aldan) (17 October 1902 – 10 January, 1957) was a Colonel of the Red Army and a Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 11 July, 1937, he was appointed Commander of the 154th Rifle Regiment of the 23rd Rifle Corps' 52nd Rifle Division; on 11 August, 1941 he became the operational department head and deputy chief of staff of the 22nd Army of the Western Front; in early 1942 the operational department head and deputy chief of staff of the 52nd Army. He was taken prisoner in 1942. He was sent to the propaganda officer courses in Wuhlheide; in 1943 he served at the propaganda department "Vineta" in Berlin; in November 1944 he became chief of the operation department of the CLPR Armed Forces Headquarters. On 9 May, 1945, he surrendered to the troops of the 3rd American Army's 26th Infantry Division. He managed to escape from POW camp.

[62] Alexei Petrovich Ananin (22 May, 1889 – 31 December, 1949) was a Colonel of the Red Army and a Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 17 September, 1941, he was called to the colors and served in the 91st Air-Defense Regiment. On 24 November, 1941, he was appointed a brigade intendant in the 20th Sapper Brigade, and later he was a Battalion Commander of the 12th Sapper Brigade. He was taken prisoner in 1942. In November 1943 he joined the RLA and was sent to the RLA Dabendorf School; in November–December 1944 he served in the Colonel Zverev group. He was recruiting volunteers to the CLPR Armed Forces among the POWs in Norway. In April 1945, he served in the Trukhin Southern group. On 5 September, 1945, along with rest of the group, he surrendered to the troops of the 26th U.S. Infantry Division; in June 1945 he was extradited to the USSR. On 31 December, 1949, he was executed by sentence of the Military Tribunal of the Leningrad Military District.

[63] Most likely it refers to the "National Socialist Labor Party of Russia" (NSLPR), created on the territory of the so-called Lokotskaya republic (Lokotsky and Brasovsky districts of Orel region) in 1942 by Konstantin Voskoboynikov and Bronislav Kaminsky. Initially, the party created on the territory of the Lokotsky Okrug was called the "National Socialist Party of Russia" (NSPR). On 29 March, 1943, Kaminsky and Mosin signed an order to establish the organizing committee for the creation of the Party. The organizing committee was instructed to develop a charter, program and structure of the party bodies. In addition, it was supposed to recruit new Party members and launch a propaganda campaign among the local people in order to help them understand the Party goals. By the end of April 1943 the drafts of the main documents were ready, and in May they were approved by Kaminsky. The goals of the party were: the destruction of the Communist Party, the violent overthrow of Soviet power, and the establishment of a new democratic state based on the private initiative. The RPLA brigade was created to fight Soviets. Collective farms were to be liquidated and private property rights reinforced. All senior officials of the local government and the commanders of the RPLA brigade joined the Party. At its high point, the NSTPR had up to 400 members. After Kaminsky's death, the Party apparatus began to crumble, and after the RPLA division was transferred to the Russian Liberation Army, it ceased to exist.

[64] Mikhail Ivanovich Golovinkin (10 September, 1908 – ?) was a Major of the Red Army and Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. He was captured in the summer of 1941 near Smolensk. From August 1942, to RHHA; from October

1942, commander of the 2nd Battalion RNNA; from February 1943, battalion commander in the 700th Eastern Volunteer Regiment; September – October 1943, participated in the fight against partisans near Mogilev; from January 1945, commander of the 3rd Infantry Regiment of the 2nd Infantry Division of Colonel CLPR Armed Forces; from February 1945, Lieutenant Colonel CLPR; 10 May, 1945, transferred to the American occupation zone; in 1947 he left the American occupation zone in Argentina.

65 Konstantin Nikitich Makhnorylov (Makhnorylo, Makhnorilo) (1919 – ?) was a Lieutenant of the Red Army and a Lieutenant of the CLPR Armed Forces. In 1940 he became a lieutenant and platoon commander of the 37th rifle division's 91st rifle regiment. In the summer of 1941 he was taken prisoner; in early 1943 he joined the RLA and was sent to the Dabendorf School; in July 1943 he became a deputy commander of a cadet company; in 1944 he was a RLA propaganda officer in Stalag #303; in early 1945 he became commander of the 2nd infantry division headquarters' HQ company; in April 1945 he served in the Southern Group of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 10 May, 1945, he was taken prisoner by the 297th Soviet infantry division; on 25 February, 1946, he was sentenced to 10 years in jail.

66 Alexey Afanasyevich Funtikov (30 March, 1902 – ?) was a Guard Colonel of the Red Army and Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 15 March, 1941, he was appointed the deputy chief of staff and the head of operational department of the 69th Motorized Division's headquarters. On 29 May, 1941, he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; on 29 July, 1941, he became the deputy chief of staff and the head of operational department of the 35th Army; on 4 March, 1942 he became the chief of staff of the of the 35th Army's 422nd Rifle Division; on 22 April, 1942, he was appointed the chief of staff of the 35th Guards Rifle Corps; on 5 August, 1942, he became the chief of staff of the 7th Guards Army's 49th Rifle Corps. On 20 October, 1943, he was taken prisoner. On 20 July, 1944, he was purged from the Red Army. On 1 December, 1945, he joined the CLPR Supreme Council, and became a Colonel; on 2 July, 1945, he was appointed the chief of staff of the 2nd Infantry Division of the CLPR Armed Forces. On 18 April, 1945, he surrendered to American troops; on 20 June, 1945, he was extradited to the Soviet occupation zone. On 6 August, 1945,he was sentenced to 10 years of jail by the Military Tribunal of the Group of Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany.

67 The military unit, comprised mainly of Russian White Army soldiers and officers, was created in September 1941 at the initiative of General Skorodumov and with the consent of the German military. The reason for its creation was the protection of immigrant families from guerrilla communist attacks. The Germans were interested in creation of local security and police units for the protection of enterprises, communications and for the fight against partisans.

By November, the 1st Regiment was formed in Belgrade deployed in Loznica. By the summer of 1942, three more regiments were formed. They were composed of twelve hundred each. In addition, the regiments had special platoons: artillery platoon, anti-tank platoon, sapper platoon, communications platoon, etc. The assigned strength of the 1st and 4th Regiments was 2,211 men, while the 2nd and 3rd had 2,183 men each. To the corps headquarters were assigned a German communications headquarters, while German liaison officers were assigned to the regiments and battalions, and companies had German instructors. By the end of November, the formation, called the Russian Protective Group (ROG), had about 6,000 soldiers and officers, including up to 2,000 Cossacks.

The ROG under the command of Lieutenant-General Boris Shteifon was subordinated to SS Gruppenführer Franz Neuhausen, the head of the occupational administration of Yugoslavia. In November 1942, by order of the German command, the ROG was incorporated into the Wehrmacht and was renamed the Russian Protective Corps (ROC). Russian White Guard epaulets and insignia were abolished, and the formation itself was reorganized in accordance with the German army structure. All the soldiers of the ROC received German uniforms and swore a personal oath to Hitler. By September 1944, the ROC had more than 11,000 soldiers and officers in. In addition to Russian immigrants, 314 former Soviet prisoners of war joined it as well.

Since the beginning of 1944, the ROC units were fighting against the communist partisans of Josef Broz Tito almost along the entire length of the Serbo-Croatian border, and in the fall, along with German troops, they repelled the offensive of the 57th Soviet Army, supported by the Yugoslav partisans. In January 1945, the corps commander Shteifon agreed to place the Corps under the RLA command.

[68] This refers to the 15th Cossack Cavalry Corps of the SS. The Corps was formed in February 1945 from the troops of the 1st Cossack Cavalry Division operating in Yugoslavia under command of Helmut von Pannwitz. In 1944, the division was reinforced by new Cossack units: two battalions from Krakow, a police battalion from Warsaw, a regiment from the Western Front, a factory guard battalion from Hannover, etc. In addition, the Reserve of Cossack troops headed by General Shkuro, which was created in 1944, launched a recruitment campaign to the volunteer Corps.

[69] Artem Tikhonovich Makeyonok (30 January, 1901 – ?) was a Lieutenant Colonel of the Red Army and a Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. In 1939 he was commander of the 1331st Rifle Regiment of the 421st Rifle Division; on 3 November, 1941, he became commander of the 1330th Rifle Regiment of the 2nd Rifle Division. In early 1942 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel; in 6 March, 1942, he became commander of the 381st Regiment. In July 1942 he was taken prisoner; in May 1943 he joined the RLA, serving as a propaganda officer near Nuremberg; in November 1944 he became instructor and the head of the CLPR Armed Forces' Officer School's Training Department. On 9 May, 1945, he surrendered to the troops of the 3rd American Army's 26th Infantry Division. On 19 August, 1945, he was extradited to the Soviet zone of occupation. On 15 November, 1945, he was sentenced to 10 years of jail. His fate is unknown.

[70] Stepan Fyodorovich Perepechai (1903 – ?) was a Colonel of the Red Army. In the beginning of the Great Patriotic War he was the commander of the 973rd Rifle Regiment of the 270th Rifle Division. On 27 May, 1942, he was encircled and taken prisoner near the village of Chepel near the Lozovaya station. He was held in the POW camps in Pavlograd, Vladimir-Volynsk, Czestochowa, and Nuremberg. In September 1943 he was transported to a camp on the island of Storfosna (Norway). In December 1944 he was sent to the RLA. He was arrested and held in detention during the investigation in Moscow.

[71] Konstantin Grigorievich Kromiadi (alias Sanin) (1893 – 25 April, 1990) was a Colonel of the Russian Army and a Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. In September 1941 he was working in the Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories; in September – December 1941 he toured around POW camps; in March 1942 he was involved in the formation of a Russian experimental unit of POWs under the leadership of Abwehr in the frontline area of the Army Group

"Center"; in March 1942 he became commandant of the central headquarters, head of administrative and logistic units of the Abvergroup-203 (RNNA); in March 1943 he became Guards Brigade RLA chief of staff; on 2 September, 1943, he became a Staff Officer at the Lieutenant General Vlasov's headquarters in Dahlem; in October 1943 he served in the Eastern propaganda department of the HCW; on 16 September, 1944, he was the chief of Vlasov's personal chancellery. On 6 February, 1945, he was evacuated from Berlin to Karlsbad; on 4 April, 1945, he was appointed the head of the CLPR civil servants echelon. From 1946 he lived in Munich.

[72] The Transcaucasus Front was created on the basis of Transcaucasus Military District to cover and reinforce national borders with Iran, Turkey and the Black Sea shores. As of 1 December, 1941, the Front included Georgian, Armenian and Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republics, and the headquarters were located in Tbilisi. On 30 December, 1941, the Front was renamed the Caucasian Front (at the end of January 1942 the front was split into Crimean Front and TranscaucasusMilitary District). Reconstituted in May 1942 on the basis of the TranscaucasusMilitary District. During the Battle for the Caucasis of 1942 – 1943 in August – December 1942 the units of the Front conducted Mozdok-Malgobek, Nalchick-Ordzhonikidze, Novorossiysk and Tuapse operations. On 3 Janauary, 1943, the Transcaucasus Front launched an offensive as part of the Northern Army Group in the Nalchick-Stavropol direction, and on 11 – 16 January as part of the Black Sea Army Group launched an offensive in the direction of Krasnodar and Novorossiysk. On 24 January, 1943, the Northern Army Group was transformed into the North Caucasian Front. On February 5 the Black Sea Army Group became part of the Front, and the Front also commanded the Black Sea Fleet operations. The Transcaucasus Front defended the Black Sea coastline between Lazarevskoye and Batumi, as well as national borders with Turkey and Iran. In August 1945 the Transcaucasus Front was transformed into the Tbilisi Military District.

[73] The 9th Army was created on 22 June, 1941 on the basis of the Odessa Military District. Initially it was known as the 9th Speical Army. On 7 October, 1941, during the Donbass Defensive, the units of the 9th as well as the 18th Armies were encircled around Chernigovka and were able to break through with heavy losses. Throuout 5 – 16 November the Army took part in the Rostov Defensive, and from 17 November through 2 December 2 in the Rostov offensive, resulting in their reaching the Mius River. On 1 January, 1942, the Army was moved to the reserves, and by 17 January moved to the right wing of the Southern Front, namely to the Barvenkovo bulge. In January 1942, took part in the Barvenkovo–Lozovaya Offensive, and until 5 April fought to liberate Slavyansk amd Kramatorsk. As part of the South-Western Front as of 4 June, and subsequently the Southern Front (as of 12 July), took part in the stopping the enemy offensive in Donbass and the Great Bend of the Don River. Around 14–16 July the Army was surrounded in the Millerovo area. In early August 1942 the remains of the 9th Army were transferred into the 37th Army and were operating as part of the Northern Group as of 9 August. From 1 through 28 September, 1942, the Army participated in Mozdok-Malgobek, subsequently (25 October–12 November) in the Nalchick-Ordjanikidze (Ordjonikidse) defensive opeartions. In January 1943, the troops switched to the offensive mode and liberated the towns of Prokhladny, Mineralnye Vody and others. From 9 February through 16 March, 1943, the troops fought in the Krasnodar operation, and from September 9 through 9 October in the Novorossiysk–Tamansk operation. Following the completion of theis operation the

Army was transferred to the reserves of the North Caucasian Front. On 6 November, 1943, combat units of the Army were transferred to the other military units per the Supreme Command Directive dated 29 October, 1943, and the field command dissolved.

[74] Niedermayer Oskar Ritter, von (8 November, 1885 – 25 September, 1948), German military leader, intelligence officer. From May 1942 commanded the 162nd Turkestan Infantry Division. Promoted to the rank of Major General on 1 September, 1942. From May 1944 served as a military adviser in France. In August 1944 confined to the Torgau prison for defeatist views. Freed by American troops in April 1945, arrested by the Socviet forces in Karlsbad and transferred to a Moscow jail. On 10 July, 1948, sentenced to 25 years' imprisonment 1948 by the Special Council of the MGB. Died from tuberculosis.

[75] Vyacheslav Pavlovich Artemyev (27 August, 1903 – ?), Lieutenant Colonel of the Red Army Guard, Lieuteanant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From 15 September, 1941, assistant to the chief of operations of the staff of the 81st Cavalry Division; from January 11, 1942 commander of the 216th Cavalry Regiment of the 81st Cavalry Division. On August 5, 1942, transferred to the Infantry Courses of the Military Academy. At the end of 1942, received command of the 46th Guard Cavalry Regiment of the 6th Guard Cavalry Corps. During the regiment's offensive, was taken prisoner. Prior to June 1944 was kept in a special camp in Lötzen. Volunteered to join the RLA and was transferred to the Dabendorff School. From July 1944 served as a commander of the training company, and from November 1944 commander of the 2nd Grenadier Regiment of the CLPR Armed Forces' 1st Infantry Division, from the personnel of the 29th SS Infantry Division (Brigade commanded by SS Brigadeführer B.V. Kaminsky) set up the 2nd Regiment (1602nd Infantry Regiment according to the German designation). On May 12, 1945, escaped across the demarcation lines, successfully avoiding forced transfer to the Soviet authorities.

[76] Vasiliy Trofimovich Zhukovsky (1 May, 1914 – 1945), Major in the Red Army, Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From 6 June, 1941, served as an assistant to the artillery chief of staff in the 156th Rifle Division. Achieved the rank of Captain in 1941; from 19 December, 1941, assistant to the head of the 1st Unit of the Army's Chief of Staff; starting from 14 April, 1942, senior assistant to the chief of intelligence of the Army's Artillery Unit. Captured in September 1942. In 1943 joined the RLA from the POW camp, graduated from the propaganda courses of the Dabendorff School; from November 1944 commander of the 1600th (German designation) Artillery Regiment of the 1st Infantry Division of the of the CLPR Armed Forces. From November 1944 through February 1945 was in charge of training and deployment of the regiment, awarded a Silver Medal for the Eastern Peoples (The Ostvolk Medal (German: *Ostvolkmedaille*) or Medal for Gallantry and Merit for Members of the Eastern Peoples)). In February 1945, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From March 6, 1945, served at the Eastern front in the Fürstenwalde district. On 12 May, 1945, voluntarily surrendered to the counter-intelligence SMERSH operatives of the 25th Armoured Corps of the 13th Army. Executed in 1945 according to the sentence of the Military Collegeum of the USSR Supreme Court.

[77] Detached Guard Batallion of RONA was created in May 1943. It consisted of two rifle and one training companies with total manpower of 650.

[78] Petr Konstantinovich Maksakov (8 October, 1898 – ?), Lieutenant Colonel of the Red Army, Lieutenant Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. Captured on 21 September, 1941. Joined the RLA in 1943; member of the CLPR Armed Forces form December 1944, assigned to the officers' reserves, from March, 1945, head of the training department of the CLPR Armed Forces 1s Infantry Division staff, on 12 May, 1945 arrested by SMERSH operatives of the Soviet 162nd Armoured Bigade, delivered to the Soviet Occupation Zone. On 1 January, 1946, the Military Tribunal of the South Ural Military District sentenced him to 10 years of camps.

[79] On 13 April, 1945, the RLA 1st Infantry Division was fighting Red Army at the Erlenhoff staging area within the area of the Werhmacht 9th Field Army operations. Air support for the offensive was provided by the RLA Air Force night bombing squadrons. Following bombardment and artillery strikes 2nd and 3rd Regiments attacked the 119th stronghold of the Soviet 33rd Army to the south of Fürstenberg. Following intense fighting resulting in hand-to-hand combat the attack of the 3rd regiment from the South was repelled by mid-day, while the attackers suffered considerable losses. Following a short break, another attack was attempted but failed again. The 2nd regiment had better luck attacking from the North with the support of 12 tanks and a few self-propelled artillery vehicles. In this area the Vlasov troops managed to advance about 500 meters, capture the first line of trenches and stay there until the next day. For more details on the 1st RLA battlefield engagement against the Red Army on Oder, see: HIA. St. Ausky. Box. 2; HIA. F.W. von Notz. Box. 2.

In addition, an anti-tank brigade "Russia" formed from various RLA combat units consisiting of four detachments totaling 1,200 men participated in the battle on the Oder river. Brigade reported to the staff of the German anti-tank division «Vistula» which was in the process of being formed.

[80] Operational unit «Jumneta» (propaganda service for Eastern areas) under the Eastern Propaganda Office of the Reich Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda was responsible for producing anti-Soviet printed materials, producing plays, spread propaganda among workers from the eastern areas, Hiwi (German abbreviation of the word *Hilfswilliger*, meaning "voluntary assistant"), etc. Initially, the Eastern Office was staffed primarily with the old émigrés. However, soon thereafter they were faced with defectors and members of intelligentsia moving from the occupied territories. The Jumneta unit included several national sections: Ukranian, Estonian, Latvian, Belorussian and Russian. The Russian section was headed by an old émigré, Knight of the Order of St. George A. P. Albov. The Russian Section supported Russian Liberation Movement and Vlasov. The unit was headed by Hanz Humpt. Following Germany surrender, Humpt was turned over to the Soviet by the British, and according to some sources he died in the camp in Chelyabinsk.

[81] Fyodor Isidorovich Kuznetsov (17 September, 1898 – 22 March, 1961), Soviet military leader, Colonel General. From 22 June through 6 July, 1941, commander of the North-Western Front. Removed from command for incompetent troops management. Commanded 21st Army from 10 – 24 July, 1941. Once the Central Front was created on 24 July, 1941, the 21st Army was rolled into the new formation, and F. I. Kuznetsov assumed command of the front. From 14 August until 19 November, 1941, commander of the 51st Detached Army; subsequently, Chief of Staff of the 28th army, deputy commander of the Western Front, commander of the 61st Army. From March 1942 till June 1943, head of the General

Staff Academy; from August 1943 through February 1944, served as deputy commander of the Volkhov Front; from February to August 1944, deputy commander of the Karelian Front; from February 1945 till February 1948, commander of the Ural Military District.

[82] Ya. A. Strombach, who served as a commander of the Red Army 7th Rifle Division in 1926 – 1928, was arrested on the trumped-up charges related to the "Vesna" (The Spring) case and executed. Secret services accused Strombach of serving as a resident for the Czech intelligence service and allegedly running a fictcious Zhitomir counter-revolutionary organization.

[83] General Staff Academy: senior general staff college for training and retraining of the Armed Forces senior and general officers. Established in 1832, the Academy was initialy known as Imperial Military Academy, and from 1855, Nicholas General Staff Academy. In December 1918, the Revolutionary Military Council decreed to open General Staff Academy in Moscow. It was directed by A. K. Klimovich, a graduate of the Nicholas General Staff Academy. During the reorganization of 1921, the academy was renamed into the Red Army Military Academy, while the functions and responsibilities of the General Staff Academy were delegated to the Advanced Military Courses of the Military Academy. In 1936, the Red Army General Staff Academy was created on the basis of the Military Academy (by that time named after M. V. Frounze) School of Operations. During the war the Academy switched to accelerated training programs: 6 months programs starting from September 1941, and 9 months curriculum starting from June 1943. Throughout the war, 1,178 officers graduated from the main course, and 176 senior officers completed retraining programs. In 1941 – 1943 the Academy was located in Tashkent.

[84] Jefim Sergeevich Zybin (25 December, 1894 – 25 August, 1946), Soviet military leader, Major General. From July 1939 commanded 36th Cavalry Division in the Belorussky Military District, promoted to the rank of Major General on 4 June, 1940. Captured on July 18, 1941. Housed in POW camps in Borisov, Hammelburg, Nuremberg and Weißenburg, spread anti-Soviet propaganda. On 4 May, 1945, freed by the American troops and repatriated to Moscow. In 1950 sentenced to capital punishment by the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court. Executed. Not rehabilitated.

Evgeniy Arsen'evich Yegorov (1891 – 1950), Soviet military leader, Major General (1940). From February 1940 commnaded 4th Rifle Corps. Captured on 30 June, 1941. In May 1945 freed by American forces and turned over to the Soviet troops. In 1950 sentenced to capital punishment by the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court. Excuted on 15 June, 1950.

[85] Iona Emmanuilovich Yakir (3 August, 1896 – 12 June, 1937), Soviet military leader, Komandarm 1st rank (1935). Prominent military leader of the Russian Civil War. In 1919 – 1920 commanded a division and an army group. Later, commander of the Kiev Military District, Kiev detachment of the Ukranian Miliatary District, commanding officer and a commissar of the 14th Rifle Corps of the Ukranian Military District. From March 1924 until November 1925, Head of the Main Directorate of the Red Army military training establishments. In 1930 – 1934 served as a member of the USSR Revolutionary Military Council. From November 1925 until 17 May, 1935, commanded the Ukranian Military District; from 17 May, 1935, commander of the Kiev Military District and member of the Military Council under the USSR People's Commissar for Defense (17 May, 1935 – 1937). On 10

May, 1937, transferred to take command of the Leningrad Military District. Arrested on 28 May, 1937. Sentenced to capital punishment by the special session of the USSR Supreme Court on 11 June, 1937. Rehabilitated in 1957.

[86] The Russian Labor People's Party (RLPP) was created by Abwehr in September 1941 in the officers' POW camp in Hammelburg. The party was chaired by S.A. Maltsev, a former military prosecutor of the Red Army 100th Rifle Division. From the German side the party operations were overseen by a counter-intelligence officer Captain von Sievers and Sonderführer Koch. The Party apparatus consisited of several sections: Propaganda Section headed by S. N. Sverchkov, a former actor of the Moscow Art Theatre; Intelligence Section headed by Major A. P. Fillipov; Military Section headed by A. I. Blagoveschensky (until November 1941). After him the Military Section was headed by F. I. Truhin.
The Party's platform was also developed by Maltsev and Sverchkov. It was published in November 1941 and circulated among the POWs. The party's main objective was stated as the overthrow of the Bolshevik regime with the help of the German Army, reinstatement of private property, and creation of a democratic republic. With the concurrence of the German leadership, four commissions were established at the camp to identify and qualify officers willing to fight the Soviets. These commissions recruited approximately 3,500 candidates. According to other sources only about 800 people volunteered to fight the Bolsheviks. In November of 1941, Major General F. I. Truhin, the Chief of the RLPP Military Section, proposed to form propaganda and subversion groups from the POWs to be deployed in the Red Army rear. It was anticipated that groups could have been formed within a month. It was also proposed to move with the creation of a volunteer army including all branches of armed forces to replace German units serving in France, Belgium, the Netherlands and in the Balkans. Besides, RLPP members were actively participating in propaganda activities. The Propaganda Section published a newspaper "Put' Rodiny" ("The Way of the Motherland") (circulation of 16 copies) and oversaw propaganda operations. Intelligence RLPP Intelligence Section prepared the lists of captured Soviet officers expressing anti-German sentiment, turning more than 2,000 prisoners over to Gestapo (SD). In June 1942, due to a severe typhoid outbreak and multiple victims, the party was disbanded, and 30 of the most active members were sent to the propaganda school in Wuhlheide. In mid-1942 the party was resurrected under the supervision of the Zeppelin organization. Maltsev remained its nominal leader and was stationed in Berlin at that time. The Hammelburg office was headed by Colonel Petrov. By August 1942, the ranks of RLPP consisted of 120 members.

[87] Georg Leibbrandt (German: Leibbrandt Georg) (5 September, 1899 – 16 June, 1982), a German government official, Ph.D. In 1941 he was invited by Rosenberg to joint the newly-created Reich Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories, where he became Director of the Political Department. In February 1943 he presented a memorandum on the Russian National Committee and the Russian Liberation Army. In summer of 1943 quit the public service, volunteered for the military service and served on the submarines. After the war he was arrested and interned by the Allies.

[88] The Warsaw Abwehr School trained Russian-speaking agents and radio operators for operations in the Soviet territory behind the front lines. The school was located in Suvalki. Students were recquited among the Red Army POW

officers. The school reported to Stab Walli, an operational unit established with Abwehr in June 1941 specifically to run intelligence gathering at the Eastern Front.

[89] This is a reference to a movement among the industrial and collective farm workers and engineers to achieve many-fold increases above the established production and output rates which started in the USSR in the 1930s. The movement was named after A. G. Stakhanov, a Soviet miner.

[90] Robert Ley (German: Robert Ley) (15 February, 1890 – 25 October, 1945), a German politician, Reichsleiter, SA-Obergruppenführer, Head of the NSDAP Organization Department, a Ph.D. In 1933 became a Führer of German Labor Front (DAF), established a Strength Through Joy organization providing benefits and recreation for the workers. Close associate of Hitler. Arrested by the Allies in 1945 and sent to the Nuremberg prison, where he committed suicide afterwards.

[91] This is a reference to the Prague Castle (German: *Die Prager Burg*), a fortress in the Czech capital. During World War II, served as a residence of the Reich Protector of Bohemia and Moravia.

[92] Creation of the CLPR Armed Forces on the basis of RLA battalions, various combat units comprised of different USSR ethnic groups serving in the German Army, as well as Cossack Forces began almost immediately following the meeting between A. A. Vlasov and Heinrich Himmler.

By the end of February 1945 CLPR Armed Forces HQ had the following organizational structure:

1. Operations Section. Section Chief: Colonel A. G. Neryanin
2. Intelligence Section. Section Chief: Major I. M. Grachev
Counter-intelligence Section. Chief: Major A. F. Chikalov
3. Communications Section. Section Chief: Lieutenant Colonel V. D. Korbukov
4. Military Communications Section. Section Chief: Major G. M. Kremenetsky
5. Topographic Section. Section Chief: Lieutenant Colonel G. Vasiljev
6. Cypher Section. Section Chief: Major A. E. Polyakov
7. Formation Section. Section Chief: Colonel I. V. Denisov
8. Combat Training Section. Section Chief: Major General V. Assberg (Artsezvo, Asb'yargas)
9. Command Section. Section Chief: Colonel V. V. Pozdnyakov
10. Propaganda Section. Section Chief: Colonel (later Major General) M. A. Meandrov
11. Military Justice Section. Section Chief: Major E. I. Arbenin
12. Finance Section. Section Chief: Captain A. F. Petrov
13. Mechanized and Armored Troops Section. Section Chief: Colonel G. I. Antonov
14. Artillery Section. Section Chief: Major General M. V. Bogdanov
15. Material and Technical Supply Section. Section Chief: Major General A. N. Sevastyanov
16. Engineering Section. Section Chief: Colonel (surname unknown)
17. Medical Section. Section Chief: Colonel Professor V. N. Novikov
18. Veterinary Section. Section Chief: Lieutenant Colonel A. M. Saraev
19. Protopresbyter. Archpriest D. Konstantinov

Army HQ Chaplain: Archpriest A. Kisilev

On 28 January, Hitler appointed Vlasov Supreme Commander of the Russian Armed Forces and transferred all Russian combat units (both those already existing and the newly-formed) under his command. On the same day, Order No. 1 was issued appointing Major General F. I. Truhin Deputy Supreme Commander and Chief of Staff.

By early March 1945, the CLPR Armed Forces HQ had not been fully staffed. HQ superintendent Major Khitrov oversaw the Administrative Section under the command of Captain P. Shishkevich, as well as the administrative services company (QM) under First Lieutenant N. A. Sharko. Security and control battalions under Major N. Begletsov were responsible for protecting senior officers, KONR and HQ. Chief of security detail Captain M. V. Kashtanov was responsible for Vlasov's personal safety and security. Lieutenant A. I. Romashin served as Aide-de-Camp for the HQ senior officers; Major S. A. Sheiko served as the HQ staff director, while Lieutenant A. A. Kubekov served as an interpreter. Officer reserve camp (commanded by Colonel M.K. Meleshkevich) and a special officers battalion (commanded by M.M. Golenko) were attached to the HQ. Under the HQ direct command were separate engineering battalion (commanding officer: engineer captain A. P. Budny), special operations battalion of the Supreme Command HQ and support units. The latter were created from special personnel and workers transferred over from support units under Colonel Yaroput's command, and they reported directly to Vlasov. Their formation started shortly after the Manifesto was published. Engineer Lieutenant Colonel K.I. Popov (former Head of Personnel and CLPR Civilian Administrative Department) became the Head of the newly-created Technical Administration. Engineer A.A. Oglobin was appointed to serve as his deputy, and S. Fröhlich became communications officer.

One month and a half or two months later the Technical Administration was established, it was renamed to CLPR Auxiliary Troops Headquarters, its leadership was formed, and the 1st Logging Battalion was created. Colonel G. I. Antonov replaced K. Popov as the CLPR Chief of Staff.

Main Administration for Cossack Forces headed by Lieutenant-General G. V. Tatarkin reported to the CLPR Armed Forces HQ.

In addition, the CLPR Armed Forces HQ oversaw the operations of the HQs of the RLA units in the process of formation: 1st Russian Division of the CLPR (German designation: 600th (Russian) Infantry Division), 2nd Russian Division (German designation: 650th (Russian) Infantry Division), 3rd Division (German designation: 700th (Russian) Infantry Division) reserve brigade, officer candidate school, anti-tank brigade and the RLA Air Force.

CLPR Air Force commanded by Major-General V.I. Maltsev also reported to the CLPR Armed Forces HQ.

[93] Ivan Matveevich Grachev (Vladimir Alekseevich Kopylov) (11 March, 1912 – ?), Major of the Red Army, Lietunant-Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From July 17, 1941, senior assistant to the Chief of the 1st Unit of the Front HQ Intelligence Section; from September 26, 1941, senior assistant to the Chief of Intelligence Section of the Leningrad Front HQ. Captured at the end of September 1941; in summer of 1942 joined the Russian Nationational People's Army (RNNA), commanding one of the batallions; from March 1943 instructor at the Abwehr training school; September – December 1943, instructor at the intelligence school in Parcani (Парканы лучше перевести как Parkany) (near Tiraspol); from December 1943, acting head of the intelligence school in Vano-Nursy (Estonia); later head of

the Intelligence Section of the CLPR Armed Forces Staff; in February 1945 promoted to the rank of Lietunant-Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces; on 9 May, 1945, together with other CLPR Armed Forces Staff officers, surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army. In 1953–1954 instructor at the American intelligence school, later held similar position in West Germany.

94 The Volga Military District (PriVO) was a military district of the Soviet Union and the Russian Federation that existed from 1918 to 1989 and 1992 to 2001. The district headquarters was located at Kazan, Saratov and Kuibyshev at different points in time. The Volga Military District was established on 4 May, 1918, on the territory of Astrakhan, Kazan, Nizhny Novgorod, Penza, Saratov, Samara, Simbirsk and Tsaritsyn provinces, and the Ural Oblast. Subsequently, the district boundaries were repeatedly changed. In 1941 the district included the Saratov, Kuibyshev, Penza, Tambov, Voronezh oblasts and parts of the the Orel Oblast, Kursk and Stalingrad regions of the RSFSR. The headquarters were located at Saratov. At the start of and during World War II, five armies, 132 divisions, 65 separate regiments, and 253 separate battalions were formed in the area.

Commanding officers during the Great Patriotic War: Lietunant-General V. F. Herasymenko (1940 – 1941), Major-General M.T. Popov (1941), Lietunant-General S. A. Kalinin (1941 – 1944), Colonel-General M. S. Khozin (1944 – 1945), Colonel-General B. N. Gordov (1945 – 1946).

95 Army Veterinary Service Academy was started in 1925 when a military department was established at the Kazan Institute of Veterinary Sciences according to the USSR Revolutionary Military Council No. 918 dated 12 September, 1925. In 1929 the military department was relocated to the Moscow Zooveterinary Institute. In 1930 the department was expanded to an Army Veterinary Service School of the Moscow Zooveterinary Institute. In 1935 the school was transformed into an Army Veterinary Service Institute, and in 1938 into Army Veterinary Service Academy. In 1948 the Academy was relaunched as the School of Army Veterinary Services of the Moscow Veterinary Academy which operated until 1956, and subsequently reorganized into Officers Advanced Retraining Courses for the Army Veterinary Service.

96 Initially, political and military intelligence were branches under the KONR Security Department established on the insistence of the Russians under the leadership of Lieutenant-Colonel N. V. Tenzorov. A former physicist, a researcher at the Kharkiv Research and Development Institute, Mr. Tenzorov had no prior intelligence experience. Major M. A. Kalugin, former Chief of Internal Affairs for the North Caucasis Military District and Major A. F. Chikalov were appointed to serve as his deputies. Counter-intelligence unit was headed by Major Krainov, Investigations were headed by Major Galanin, Secure Communications Section was headed by Captain P. Bashkansky, and Captain Zverev ran the Personnel Department. It should be noted that some offciers of the Department, namely Chikalov, Kalugin, Krainov, Galanin, Majors Egorov and Ivanov, Captain Bekker-Khrenov and others served in the NKVD earlier and possibly had sufficient fieldwork experience.

In February of 1945 the military intelligence branch was formally separated from the political branch. Major-General Trukhin oversaw the establishment of a separate RLA Intelligence Service, while a separate intelligence unit under the command of the Frounze Military Academy gradute Major (later Lieutenant Colonel) Grachev was created with the CLPR Armed Forces General Staff. 22

February 1945, the unit was split into several groups: intelligence group under Captain N. F. Lapin (later headed by Senior Lietunant B. Gai), counterintelligence group headed by Major Chikalov and operational intelligence group headed by Lietunant A. F. Vronsky. According to the order issued by Major-General Trukhin on March 8, 1945, in addition to the unit head, the personnel roaster included 21 officers.

[97] The CLPR Armed Forces 1st Intelligence School (also known as the Marienbad School) was established in early 1945 by the CLPR Security Department with the approval of the RSHA. The school trained agents for operations behind the Soviet lines. Students were recruited from the CLPR Armed Forces personnel. A six-week-long training course covered intelligence gathering behind Soviet lines, methods of crossing front lines, topography and basic military training. The first class of 20 students graduated on April 12, 1945.

RLA 2nd Intelligence School (also known as the Bratislava School) was established in March 1945 by the CLPR Security Department with the assistance of the Zeppelin organization. The school trained intelligence officers and commandos to committ terrorists acts agains the Red Army senior officers. The class consisted of 30 students and the training course was designed for 3–4 weeks. The agents were trained in intelligence gathering, sabotage, terrorism, survival behind Soviet lines and basic military skills. In April of 1945 the school was relocated to Austria and did not manage to graduate a single class.

[98] This is a refernce to the 714th Russian Volunteer Regiment, part of the 599th Russian Volunteer Brigade stationed in Denmark. Two additional reconstituted batallions from that regiment rolled into the RLA 1st Division.

[99] Chistophor Nikolaevich Alaverdov (May 1895 – 1942), Soviet military leader, Major-General. Commanded 13th Rifle Division of the 10th Army of the Western Front, wounded. On 1 July, 1941, was captured while attempting to break out of the encirclement. Housed in the Hammelburg POW camp where he was spreading anti-Nazi propaganda; transferred to the Nuremberg prison. Executed in prison.

Ivan Semenovich Nikitin (22 October, 1897 – April 1942), Soviet military leader, Major-General (1940), a veteran of World War I, the Civil War and the Great Patriotic War. From 1940 commanded the 6th Cavalry Corps. Promoted to Major General on 4 June, 1940. Taken as a POW in July 1941. Housed in the Hammelburg POW camp where he was spreading anti-German propaganda. Executed on April 1942.

[100] Vladimir Nikolayevich Sotensky (20 March, 1899 – 22 April, 1945), Soviet military leader, Major-General (1940). From 1940, head of artillery of the 5th Army of the Kiev Military District. Participated in the border line battles and the Kiev Defensive. In early September 1941, while trying to break out of the encirclement, was wounded and captured. Initially housed at the Hammelburg POW camp, for the anti-Nazi propaganda was transferred to the Nuremberg prison in January 1943, and in September 1943 to the Wülzburg fortress. In April 1945 the POWs capable of walking were evacuated to the Austrian Mossberg camp. On 22 April, 1945, Sotensky was killed since he was unable to move.

[101] The Hitler Youth (Germ. *Hitler-Jugend*, HJ) was the youth organization of the Nazi Party in Germany. Membership was limited to males only. The Hitler Youth was established 3–4 July, 1926 in Weimar as a national-socialist youth movement. Set up as a paramilitary organization, it was guided by the principle of "Youth is guiding the youth"; the organization covered German teenagers from 10 to 18

years old and was split into different age groups. Junior group: boys from 10 to 14 years old, The German Youngsters in the Hitler Youth (German: *Deutsches Jungvolk in der Hitler Jugend*); from 14 to 18 years old, The Hitler Youth proper. Girls' organization within The Hitler Youth: girls from 10 to 14 years old made up The Young Girls' League (Germ. *Jungmädelbund*); from 14 to 18 years old, League of German Girls (Germ. *Bund Deutscher Mädel*, abbreviated as BDM). With the adoption of the Hitler Youth Law (Germ. *Gesetz über die Hitler-Jugend*) on 1 December, 1936, and the Youth Service Duty (Germ. *Jugenddienstpflicht*) on 25 March, 1939, the formerly voluntary membership requirement become mandatory. Once Baldur Benedikt von Schirach took over the leadership of the organization, Hitler Youth became part of the Nazi Party. The organization was dissolved after the defeat of the Third Reich.

[102] Kuzma Sergevich Vlasov (30 October, 1896 – ?) a colonel of the Red Army, colonel of the RLA. From 4 August, 1941, chief of artillery of the Western Front 19th Army. His unit was incircled near Vyazma and he was captured there. From early 1943 joined the RLA and sent to the RLA Dabendorf School; from March 1943 through April 1945 served as support services of the Dabendorf School. On 5 May, 1945, sent to the POW camp in Cham (Bavaria). Turned over to the Soviet Occupation Zone by the U.S. authorities. At the end of 1945 sentenced by the Military Tribunal of the Moscow Military District to 10 years in labor camp.

[103] Nikolai Stepanovich Shatov (29 April, 1901 – 1 August, 1946), a colonel of the Red Army, lieutenant-colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From 3 October, 1940, deputy head of Artillery Directorate of the North Caucasus Military District in charge of supplies. On 12 January, 1942, voluntarily surrended, joined the RLPP. On 26 June, 1944, joined the RLA and served in the inspectieriate under RLA Major General I. A. Blagoveschensky. From November 1944, an inspector of the artillery department of the CLPR Armed Forces General Staff. On 9 May, 1945, surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army, and in September 1945 turned over by the Americans to the Soviet authorities. On 1 August, 1946, hanged in the Butyrskaya prison according to the death sentence.

[104] Ivan Pavlovich Prokhorov (27 April, 1901 – 1961), Soviet military leader, Major General (1940). In 1941 appointed as a commander of artillery of the 20th Army of the Orlov Military District. Within the ranks of the 20th Army, participated in combat in Belorussia, the Battle of Smolensk and Vyazma Defensive. During the latter, the Army was encircled, and during the breakout attempts Prokhorov was captured and transported to Germany, where he was kept in a number of POW camps. Liberated by the British forces on 29 April, 1945. Returned to the USSR via the Soviet Repatriation Mision in Paris. Having been cleared by the NKVD, reinstated in the ranks of the Soviet Army. In 1947 graduated from the advanced training program of the General Staff Academy.

[105] Following the establishment of CLPR, its newspapers "Volja Naroda" (The Will of the People), "Za Rodiny!" (For the Motherland!)—with circulation of 250,000 copies—and the Air Force outlet "Nashi Krylja" ("Our Wings") were launched in the printing house of the closed newspaper "Novoe Slovo" (The New Word). "Volja Naroda" (The Will of the People) was published from November 1944 through March 1945.

[106] Vasiliy Grigor'evich Kisilev (20 July, 1896 – ?), Colonel of the Red Army, Colonel of the KONR Armed Forces. From 26 July, 1941, professor at the department of military and medical sciences; from 27 September, 1941, chief of

staff of the NKVD 20th Rifle Division. While POW he was housed in the Hammelburg camp where he joined RLPP; starting from summer of 1942, joined Political Center to Fight Bolshevism headed by brigadier commander I. G. Bessonov. From November 1943, Head of Commanders' School for the Peoples of the East; from January 1945, in the Officers Training School of the KONR Armed Forces; from March 1945, deputy head of the KONR Armed Forces Major General M. A. Meandrov's Training School. On 9 May, 1945, surrendered to the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army.

[107] Main Administration for the Civil Airfleet under the Governement of the USSR was created on February 25, 1932, following restricting of the All-Union Administration of the Civil Airfleet. A month later it was renamed the Chief Directorate of the the Civil Airfleet "Aeroflot".

On July 27, 1964, Directorate General of Civil Aviation was dissolved by the Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Ministry of Civil Aviation was created instead.

[108] The Office of Military Government for Germany, United States (OMGUS; German: *Amt der Militärregierung für Deutschland* (U.S.)) was the governing body for the American Zone of Occupation, which covered Southern Germany, consisiting of four federal lands: Bavaria, Wurttemberg-Baden, Hessen, and Bremen. Additionally, Bremen and Bremerhaven were included as supply seaports. The structure of OMGUS, as well as that of the Soviet Military Administration in Germany (SVAG), was closely aligned with the structure of the Allied Control Council established by the Four Powers.

[109] The German Labor Front (German: *Deutsche Arbeitsfront*, DAF) united trade union of the employers and employees in the Nazi Germany. The German Labor Front was established on 10 May, 1933 as a result of reforming independent trade unions, transferring their property and eliminating the right to strike. Legal foundation for the DAF operations was laid out in the Work Order Act (German: *Arbeitsordnungsgesetz*, officially *Gesetz zur Ordnung der nationalen Arbeit*) of 20 January. DAF objectives were listed as "fighting for the worker's rights, against capitalism, liberalism, revolution and support for the national-socialist state." DAF attempted to act as an intermediary between the workers and factory owners. In dealings with employers, the Front supported nationalization of large-scale enterprises and insisted on introducing controls over wages.

The employees were given relatively high set wages, improved labor conditions, canteens, expanded social safety net, and entertainment programs via the Strength through Joy organization which was part of DAF. These accomplishments made DAF popular among the German workers and earned their loyalty.

DAF united nearly 22 million members and was organized similarly to the National Socialist German Workers' Party; it existed through the end of the war.

[110] Heinz Wilhelm Guderian (German: Guderian Heinz Wilhelm; 17 June, 1888 – 14 May, 1954), German military leader and strategic planner, Colonel-General (1940). From November 1940, commanded the 2nd Panzer Group. The 2nd Panzer Group of the Army Group Center was advancing towards Brest. Due to disagreements with Field Marshall von Kluge, commander of the Army Group Center, Guderian was relieved of his command, and on 26 December, 1941, he was assigned to the Supreme Command Reserves. On 28 February, 1943, appointed to a new position as Inspector General of Armored Troops. After 20 July, 1944, was appointed Chief of Staff of the Army (*Chef des Generalstabs des Heeres*). Removed

from office on 28 March, 1945. Captured by the US troops on 10 May, 1945 in Tyrol, delivered to Nuremberg, however was called to testify only as a witness. In 1946 he was housed in the Allendorf prison, subsequently transferred to Neustadt, released in July 1948.

111 Erich von Manstein (German: *Manstein Erich von Lewinski*) (24 November, 1887 – 9 June, 1973), German military leader, attained the rank of Field Marshal in 1942. In 1941 he was commander of the 56th Panzer Corps, took part in the Leningrad offensive. From September 1941 through July 1942, commanded the 11th Army during the occupation of Crimea and the Battle of Sevastopol; from August 1942 oversaw combat operations during the Siege of Leningrad. Promoted to Colonel-General on 7 March, 1942, and to Field Marshall on 1 July, 1942. November 1942 – March 1943, commanded Army Group Don (*Heeresgruppe Don*), unsuccessfully attempting to mount a relief operation for the troops encircled in Stalingrad. From March 1943 until March 1944, commanded Army Group South (Heeresgruppe Süd). Relieved of command for failing to achieve his objectives and moved into reserves.

112 "Golos Kryma" (The Voice of Crimea), a Russian-language newspaper published by the German occupational authorities in Simferopol from December 1941 until April 1944 (a total of 338 issues were published).

113 A Russsian-language newspaper "Evpatoriyskie Izvestia" (Yevpatoriyan News) was published in Yevpatoriya by occupational authorities from 31 December, 1941 through 13 Novermber, 1943 (overall, 193 issues were printed). On 3 July, 1943, the name was changed to "Osvobozhdenie" (Liberation).

114 Semyon Trofimovich Bychkov (15 May, 1918–4 November, 1946), Captain of the Red Army Air Force, Major of the CLPR Air Force. From 16 December, 1940, junior airman of the 42nd Air Force Fighter Regiment; later a pilot in the 287th Regiment. Achieved the rank of a lieutenant on 25 March, 1942; from 20 July, 1942, Deputy Commander of the flying squadron. Following a crash in 1942, he was sentenced to five years in a labor camp. On 1 October, 1942, the sentence was lifted. On 28 May, 1943, promoted to the rank of captain; on 2 September, 1943, was awarded the title of Hero of the Soviet Union (with the Gold Start and Order of Lenin), received two Orders of the Red Banner. Starting in 1943, Deputy Commander of the 482nd Fighter Regiment of the 322nd Fighter Division. On 10 December, 1943, his plane was shot down by the enemy anti-aircraft artillery, and he was wounded and captured. In February 1944, joined the Russian Holters-Maltsev Aviation Group. In December of 1944 took charge of creating the 5th fighter squadron named after Colonel A. A. Kazakov in the 1st aviation Regiment of the KNOR Armed Forces. On 30 April, 1945, surrendered to the 12th Corps of the American 3rd Army in Langdorf; in September of 1945 he was transferred from Cherbourg camp (France) and handed over to the Soviet authorities. On 24 August, 1946, Bychkov was tried by the tribunal of Moscow Military District and sentenced to death, being executed on 4 November, 1946.

115 Aleksandr Pavlovich Albov (1902 – 1989), a former Belgrade news reporter for the London Daily Mail newspaper and the U.S. Associated Press news agency. From June to September 1941 was in charge of the Russian desk of the Vineta propaganda agency. The "Nashi Krylja" (Our Wings) newspaper of the CLPR Air Forces, and the head of the propaganda bureau of the Staff of the CLPR Air Forces. A.P. Albov was the senior editor.

[116] Aleksandr Fedorovitch Vanyushin (12 November, 1900 – 24 August, 1946), Colonel of the Red Army Air Force, Colonel of the CLPR Air Force. From 1 September, 1941, served as a Chief of Staff of the Orlov Military District (order of the People's Commissariat of Defense No.0921) and from 31 August, 1941, acting commander of the 20th Army Air Force. In October of 1941, was wounded and captured, excpelled from the Red Army in 1942. From 1942, worked for the Vineta propaganda agency. At the end of 1942 was sent to Oflag XIII-D in Hammelburg, and in 1944 to the camp for airmen POW camp in Suwalki. Joined the KONR Armed Forces in December of 1944; starting from 13 February, 1945, Chief of Staff of the CLPR Air Force, and Deputy Commander of the CLPR Air Force. On 20 April, 1945, surrendered to the representatives of the 12th Corps of the 3rd U.S. Army. Turned over to the Soviet authorities. Executed on 24 August, 1946, per the sentence of the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court.

[117] This is a refernce to the Waffen-Grenadier-Regiment der SS 75 (1st Belosrussian). The regiment was included into the "pure byelorussian" SS Waffen division created with the assistance of the Belorussian Central Rada Military Department.

[118] This is a reference to the RLA counter-intelligence school created within the Special Camp for RLA Officer Corps Training. The school reported directly to General Köstring, Commander of the Eastern Troops. The school produced counter-intelligence agents for the RLA combat units and for the POW camps. The class size was up to 150 students, duration of training being 6 months. The students studied Soviet, French and British secret services' modes of operations, intelligence gathering and data transmission, agent recruiting and running, counter-intelligence methods in the RLA units, explosives, weapons, and hand-to-hand combat. The graduates were assigned to the units or camps they were recruited from. Since September 1944 the school was relocated several times. (See also V.1, footnote 122.)

[119] The North Caucasus Military District, combined arms operational strategic amalgamation of the RF Armed Forces (earlier, USSR Armed Forces) based on the territorial principle with the headquarters located in Rostov-on-Don. Created by the Decree of The Council of People's Commissars on 4 May, 1918, comprised the Republic of Adygeya, the Republic of Dagestan, the Republic of Ingushetia, the Kabardino-Balkar Republic, the Republic of Kalmykia, the Karachay–Cherkess Republic, the Republic of North Osetia-Alaniya, the Chechen Republic, Krasnodar Krai, Stavropol Krai, and Astrakhan, Volgograd, and Rostov oblasts, Stavropol, Black Sea and Dagestan provinces, and the territories of Don, Kuban and Tersk Cossack hosts. In September of the same year the district was dissolved due to formation of the Southern Front. Recreated on 31 March, 1920, but dissolved again only five months later. For the 3rd time the North Caucasus Military District was created on 4 May with the headquarters located in Rostov-on-Don. Prior to October 1921 the district covered Donskaya and Kuban Black Sea Oblasts, Stavropol and Tersk provinces. Starting from November 1921 the District also included the Kabardia and Mountain Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republics, Dagestan; starting from May 1922 the District included Kalmyk Oblast as well.

In 1941, the District included southern parts of the Rostov Oblast, Krasnodar and Ordzhonikidze (Stavropol) Krai, the Kabardino-Balkar Republic and the Checheno-Ingush Autonomous Republics, Karachay and Cherkess Autonomous Oblasts headquartered in Armavir (1941 – 1942). In August 1942 the District was

dissolved but re-created in July of 1943. On 9 July, 1945, the North Caucasus Military District was split into 3 military districts: Kuban (Krasnodar Krai), Don (Rostov, Stalingrad and Astrakhan Oblasts), Stavropol (Stavropol Krai, Grozny Oblast, Kabardin and The North Ossetian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republics). On 4 February, 1946, they were once again combined into the North Caucasus Military District (Headquarters at Rostov-on-Don).

Commanding officers of the North Caucasus Military District: 1940 – 1941, Lieutenant General F. I. Kuznetsov; 1941, Lieutenant General I. S. Konev; 1941, Lieutenant General M.A. Reiter; 1941, Lieutenant General F. N. Remezov; 1941 – 1942, Lieutenant General V. N. Sergeev; 1942, 1943 – 1944, Lieutenant General V. N. Kurdyumov; 1944 – 1945, Lieutenant General N. K. Klykov.

120 The Group of Soviet Occupation Forces in Germany (GSOFG) was created on 10 June, 1945, per the directive of the Supreme Command No. 11095 dated 29 May. Initially, the forces of the 1st Belorussian Front were renamed the GSOFG. In addition, some forces of the 2nd Belorussian and 1st Ukranian Front were assigned to the group. Marshall Zhukov was appointed Commnader-in-Chief of the GSOFG (and of the Soviet Military Administration in Germany), Army General V.D. Sokolovsky was appointed to serve as his deputy. On 24 March, 1954, the Group was renamed the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, and starting from 1 July, 1989, the Western Group of Forces. Dissolved on 31 August, 1994.

121 Ivan Mikchailovich Shepetov (11 July, 1902 – 1943), Soviet military leader, Major General (1941). At the early stages of the Great Patriotic War, commanded the 96th Mountain Rifle Division of the 18th Army and participated in the border battles on the Southern Front. Division was encircled by the Germans, but managed to break through, and facililtated the escape of the other units of the 18th Army. On 9 November, 1941, became the Hero of the Soviet Union, and his division was redesignated as the 14th Guards Rifle Division. In May 1942 during the Kharkiv operation the division was encircled, and General Shepetov was injured in combat and captured on 25 May, 1942. Was housed in the German hospital in the Lötzen fortress, and starting from July 1942 in the Hammelburg POW camp. In December 1942 was transferred to the Nürnberg prison for the anti-Nazi propaganda, and later to the Flossenbürg camp. In May 1943 attemped a failed escape. Executed for attepted escape on 21 May, 1943.

122 Andrei Zinovievitch Naumov (19 November, 1891 – 19 April, 1950), a Soviet military leader, Major General (1940), a veteran of World War I, the Civil War and the Great Patriotic War, a collaborator. From 10 February, 1939, a brigade commander, commander of the 13th rifle division of the Belosrussian Special Military District. Awarded the rank of Major General on 4 June, 1940. Captured on 19 September, 1941; initially held in the POW camp near Minsk, subsequently in the Hammelburg POW camp. From January 1945, housed in the Nürnberg camp. In May 1945 liberated by the American troops, transferred to Moscow, arrested and charged. In 1950 sentenced to death by the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court.

123 *Schutzmann* (old German term for a policeman), a member of the police-type unit (Germ. *Schutzmannschaft*, or Germ. abbr. *Schuma*). In accordance with the order issued by H. Himmler, Reichsführer of the Schutzstaffel (Protection Squadron; SS), dated 6 November, 1941, all police and security forces created from the volunteers and prisoners of war in the eastern occupied regions were to be combined under Schutzmannschaft der Ordnungspolizei (Auxillary Law

Enforcement Police Service). The entire personnel was divided into four categories: frontline, security, reserve, and explosives and engineering.

[124] Eisenhower Dwight David (14 October, 1890 – 28 March, 1969), American military leader, Army General and the 34th President of the United States. In 1942 – 1945, commander of American forces in Europe, from November 1942, Commander of Allied Forces in Northern Africa and Mediterranean. From 1943, supreme commander of the Allied Expeditionary Forces in Europe, oversaw British-U.S. invasion of the North-Western France. From 1945, commander of the US occupational forces in Germany. From November 1945 through February 1948, served as a U.S. Army Chief of Staff.

[125] Ivan Nikolaevich Muzychenko (29 October, 1901 – 8 December, 1970), Soviet military leader. Lieutenant-General. On July 26, 1940 was appointed to command the 6th Army located in the vicinity of Lvov. In August of 1941 the 6th Army was surrounded by the enemy near Uman. On August 6, 1941, Muzychenko received a severe injury to his left leg and captured. Was treated in German hospitals in Rivne and Volodymyr-Volynskyi. Upon completing the treatment was moved to the prisoner-of-war camp in Hammelburg. Subsequently was transferred Weißenburg prison. On 24 April, 1945, was liberated by American troops from Mossburg prison camp. In May – December 1945, was investigated by Soviet military mission in Paris and NKVD offices in Moscow. Reinstated in the Soviet Army on 31 December, 1945.

[126] Bessonov Ivan Georgievich (24 August, 1904 – 18 April, 1950), Major General of the Red Army, collaborator. Since April 1941, chief of staff of the 102nd Red Army infantry division. Captured on 26 August, 1941. Worked in the Military History Department, one of the cofounders of the Political Center of Anti-Bolshevik Struggle (PCB). Starting from September 1942, participated in Operation Zeppelin (German: Unternehmen Zeppelin) of the 6th Directorate of RSHA (Reich Main Security Office, Reichssicherheitshauptamt). Arrested by the Germans in 1943 and kept in Sachsenhausen concentration camp. In April 1945, turned over to the American forces; on 15 May, 1945, turned over to the Soviet authorities. Executed on 18 April, 1950 per the sentence of the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court. Not rehabilitated.

[127] Aleksandr Efimovich Budykho (12 August, 1892 – 19 April, 1950), Major General of the Red Army, Major General of the Russian Liberation Army. From 19 August, 1939, commander of the 171st rifle divion. Awarded the rank of Major General on 5 June, 1940. In 1941, graduated from the training course for the senior commanding officers of the Red Army at M.V . Frounze Military Academy. Captured in September 1941. Housed in the Oflag XIII-D prisoner-of-war camp in Hammelburg, performed anti-Soviet and anti-Stalin propaganda among the POWs. Member of Russian Labor People's Party. In spring of 1942, started creating Counter Bolshevism Political Center (PCB), (and from summer 1942 served as a head of the Center's internal intelligence. Starting June 1943 served on the staff of the werhmaht Eastern Troops. On 7 Sepetmber, 1943, appointed to become staff officer for training of Eastern Troops with the 710th Regiment of the Werhmaht 16th Army. On 18 Ocober, 1943, surrendered to the 4th Leningrad Partisan Brigade. Delivered to Moscow and detained on 7 November, 1943. On 11 November, 1943, charged with treason and arrested. Executed per the sentence per of the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court on 19 April, 1950.

[128] Skugarevsky Aleksandr Petrovich (1892 – 5 June, 1946), a lieutenant colonel in the Red Army, a colonel in the CLPR Armed Forces. From 22 February, 1942, served as a deputy regiment commander for sullpies of the 872nd Anti-tank Artillery Regiment. Achieved the rank of Lieutenant Colonel. Last command: deputy commander of the 529th artillery regiment of the Bryansky Front. Captured in July 1942. Since January 1945, member of the officer reserves of the CLPR Armed Forces. From March 1945, colonel of the KONR Armed Forces, Deputy Commander of the Reserve Brigade under the KONR Armed Forces Colonel Koida. On 9 May, 1945, surrendered to the representatives of the 26th Infantry Division of the 3rd U.S. Army. In the fall of 1945 returned to the Soviet occupation zone. On 15 November, 1945, sentenced by a military tribunal to eight years of labor camp. Died 5 June, 1946 in the hospital of Butyrskaya prison.

[129] This is a reference to the First Russian Grand Duke Konstantin Konstantinovich Cadet Corps, created in the early 1920s in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia on the basis of various Russian military schools evacuated from Russia during the Civil War. Ultimately three new scools were created: Russian Cadet Corps in Sarajevo, Crimean Cadet Corps in Bila Tserkva, and Donskoy in Goražde. Subsequently the three were merged into a single Russian Cadet Corps. Twenty-four classes graduated from the Corps over its existence. In mid-September 1944, prior to Soviet advance, the Corps was evacuated to the Sudety mountains (Sudeten), the city of Eger (Erlau). After a few months junior cadets were transferred to the city of Gmunden (Austria); at the end of the war they were interned in Salzburg, while senior cadets were transferred to Berlin on 20 January, 1945 to serve under the RLA command.

[130] Avtonomov Nikolai Petrovich (6 (18) April, 1894 – 13 August, 1979), a clergyman, member of the Russian Apostolate Abroad, an abbot. Starting from 1942 he served as a director of a meat processing plant in Pyatigorsk, and when the Germans took over the region, he declared himself canonical archbishop and moved to Ukraine. Starting from 3 January, 1943, acting head of Mozyr archdiocese. On 5 June, 1943, banned from serving. On 11 October, 1944, accused of imposturing. In 1945 was adopted in Rome in the bosom of the Catholic Church while preserving the Eastern rite, and then erected by Pope Pius XII to the rank of Metropolitan. Belonged to the Russian apostolate of the Russian Greek Catholic Church Abroad. From December 1945, Archbishop of the Uniate Church, publisher of "Kolokol" (The Bell) magazine. Emigrated to the United Statea in 1948.

[131] The 3rd Guard Army, operational combat unit (all arms army) of the USSR Armed Forces during the Great Patriotic War. The Army was created in December as part of the South-Western Front according to the Directive of Supreme High Command dated 5 December, 1942, and as a result of renaming the 1st Guard Army. As of mid-December the Army consisted of 14th Infantry Corps, 50th Guard and 197th, and 278th Infantry Divisions, 90th and 94th Infantry Brigades, 1st Guard Mechanized Corps, 22nd Motorized Rifle Brigade and three armored regiments. Army was sent into combat in the Don region with the aim of preventing unblocking enemies' troops surrounded in the Stalingrad region.

From January to February 1943, the Army took part in the Voroshilogradsky offensive after it was moved to the Seversky Donets; in August – September the Army took part in the Donbassky operation, liberated the city of Zaporozhye in October, as well as eliminating the enemy's staging area on the left bank of the Dnieper river.

Throughout January and February of 1944, the 3rd Guard Army fought in the Nikopol-Krivoi Rog Offensive. On 18 April, the Army was transferred to the 1st Ukrainsky Front and took part in liberating Poland. In January and February of 1945, the Army, as part of the 1st Ukrainsky Front strike force, reached the Neisse river, thereafter participating in the Berlin offensive. Subsequently it was transferred to the Dresden sector, where it fought in the Prague operation. By the morning of 9 May, advance forces of the Army entered Prague. The 3rd Guard Army was disbanded in July 1945.

Commanding officers: Lieutenant General D. D. Lelyushenko (December 1942 – March 1943); Major General G. I. Khetagurov (March – August 1943); Lieutenant General D. D. Lelyushenko (August 1943 – February 1944); Lieutenant General D. I. Ryabyshev (February – March 1944); Colonel General V.N. Gordov (April 1944 through the end of the war).

Krupennikov Ivan Pavlovich (20 January, 1896 – 28 August, 1950), Soviet military leader, Major General (1942), veteran of the Civil War and Great Patriotic War. From 1942, Chief of Staff of the 5th Reserve Army, which later became the 3rd Guard Army. Promoted to Major General on 4 August, 1942, and awarded the Order of Red Star. Captured as a POW on 20 December, 1942, and was held in the Nuremberg prison. Freed by American troops in May 1945 and sent to Moscow, where he was arrested and tried. Sentenced to death by the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court in 1950. Executed. Rehabilitated on 8 June, 1957.

132 First anti-Bolshevik conference of the officers and soldiers of the Red Army who joined the Russian Liberation Movement was held in Dabendorf on 12 April, 1943, attended by 600 participants. Presidium included RLA Lieutenant General G. N. Zhilenkov editor of the "Dobrovolets" (The Volunteer) newspaper, V. V. Pozdnyakov, G. A. Pshenichny, Lieutenant K. A. Krylov, and others. The keynote address was delivered by Major General V. F. Malyshkin.

133 Soon after Hitler took power, one of the assistants in the Propaganda Ministry under Joseph Goebbels, E. Taubert, revisited the idea of creating a unified front of émigré and German organizations to combat the Boslsheviks. A special agency initially called the Union of German Anticommunist Societies was established, and its name was later changed to Anti-Comintern. It was headed by A. Ehrt, a German writer of Russian descent (born in Saratov in 1902). Although Anri-Comintern was formally dissolved in 1939, it was reconvened in 1941 following the invasion into the Soviet Union. Since it was essentially a camouflaged divion of Goebbels's ministry, Anti-Comintern was involved in turf battles over the control over Russian émigrées with Rosenberg's Foreign Policy Office.

134 Pyotr Nikolayevich Wrangel (also Vrangel) (15 August, 1878 – 25 April, 1928), a Russian military leader, baron, one of the leaders of the White Army in Southern Russia. From 4 April, 1920, Supreme Commander of the Russian Army in Crimea. On 14 November, 1920, he escaped Russia and moved abroad. In 1924, he established the Russian All-Military Union (ROVS). Died in Brussels in 1928.

135 The Crimea (Yalta) Conference, second of the three meetings of the Allied leaders (Great Britain, USSR and USA) was held 4 – 11 February, 1945. Participants focused on the plans for the final defeat of the German armed forces and discussed national borders and spheres of influence.

136 The 7th Army was created om 10 June, 1943, the next day after the Allied invasion of Sicily. The Army was formed on the basis of the 1st Armored Corps, and becme the first U.S. army entering WWII. General George Patton became its

first Commanding Officer. On 17 August, 1944, the troops of the 7th Army together with the British troops reached Messina, liberating the island.

On 15 August, 1944, the 7th Army as part of Army Group 6 started combat operations on the French Mediterranean coast. In the winter of 1944 – 45, the Army was fighting for the liberation of Alsace-Lorraine, and its units became the first U.S. troops to reach the Rhein. In spring of 1945 &th Army crossed the Rhein and invaded Germany. Its units liberarted Bavaria and Schwarzwald.

From March 1944 till June 1945, the 7th Army was commanded by General Alexander Patch.

137 The 22nd Army was formed in June 1941 from the staff and divisions of the Ural Military District. The Army consisted of the staff and two infantry corps (51st and 62nd). On 13 June, 1941, all Ural Military district divisions were ordered to relocate to the Western Special Military District.

On 25 June, the Army joint the reserves of the Supreme High Command. By 1 July, 1941, the Army was defending the Sebezhsky Stronghold-Vitebsk line. On 8 July, the 22nd Army was surrounded, and only by the 20th of July were its main forces able to break out. Later, the Army defended Smolensk, in October 1941, as part of the Western Front, defended the Ostashkovskoe line, from 17 October as part of Kalininsky Front took part in Kalininsky defensive operation, defended positions to the south-west of Rzhev, later participated in the Rzhev battle. In 1943, the Army was operating as part of the North-Western Front (from 21 April) and then starting from 13 October as part of the Pribaltiysky Front (from 20 October, 1943, as part of the 2nd Pribaltiysky Front). Conducted defensive operations along the Lovat River in the Velikiye Luki-Kholm sector.

In January – February 1944, the Army was involved in the Leningrad-Novgorodskaya operation. In the summer and fall of 1944, the Army participated in the Starorussko-Novorzhevskaya, Rezhitsko-Dvinskaya, and Rizhskaya offensives. From October 1944 to April 1945, the Army along with the other forces of the Front maintained the blockade of the Army Group "North." In early April, the Army was transferred to the Leningradsky Front, then moving to the reserves of the Supreme High Command, and later serving as the building block of the Tavrichesky Military District. Disbanded in June 1945.

Commanding officers: Lieutenant General F. A. Ershakov (June – August 1941); Major General (later, Lieutenant General) V. A. Yushkevich (August – 19 October, 1941, April – December 1942 and March 1943 – April 1944); Major General V. I. Vostrukhov (20 October, 1941 – March 1942); Major General D. M. Seleznev (December 1942 – March 1943); Lieutenant General G.P. Korotkov (April 1944 – May 1945).

138 Vasily Alekseevich Kardakov (1903 – 23 July, 1947). Lieutenant Colonel in the Red Army. Colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From March 1941, Assistant to the CO of the Tomsk Artillery School for Training; starting from 3 August, 1941, served as Lieutenant Colonel and chief of artillery of the 280th Infantry Division. Captured in 1942; from early 1943, chief of police in the city of Bobruisk, and from May 1943 moved to the Dabendorf School of the RLA. From early 1944 he served on the staff of general Köstring's Eastern Command. Starting November 1944, assistant to the chief of artillery section of the CLPR Armed Forces General Staff; in February 1945 was promoted to full colonel of the CLPR Armed Forces. From 22 February, 1945, served as inspector of artillery combat training. Arrested by the U.S. Military Police on 4 May, 1945, and moved to the POW camp in Augsburg,

then turned over to the Soviet authorities in spring of 1946. Executed on 23 July, 1947, per the sentence imposed by the Military Collegium of the USSR Supreme Court.

139 See: NARA. RG 0319. Box. 68. Folger ZF 015110.

140 Günther von Kluge (30 October, 1882 – 19 August, 1944), a German military leader, Generalfeldmarschall (1940). From 18 December, 1941, commanding officer of Army Group Center. On 12 October, 1943, suffered injuries in a car crash and was sent to Germany for medical treatment. From 2 July, 1944, commanding officer of the Western Front (Army Group D). Participated in the assassination plot against Hitler. Removed from command on 18 August, 1944. Committed suicide.

141 This is a reference to Section VI of the Reich Main Security Office "Foreign Intelligence Service" (or Ausland-SD), headed in 1942 – 1944 by Doctor of Law Heinz Gräfe, Obersturmbannführer SS.

142 Konstantin Konstantinovich Rokossovsky (21 December, 1896 – 3 August, 1968), a Soviet military leader, Marshal of the Soviet Union, twice the Hero of the Soviet Union. From June through 11 July, 1941, served as the commander of the 9th Mechanized Corps. From August 1941 until July 1942, commanded 16th Army at the Western Front; later commanding officer of the Bryansky (July – September 1942), Donskoy (September 1942 – February 1943), Central (February – October 1943), Belorussian (October 1943 – October 1944), 1st Belorussian and 2nd Belorussian Fronts (November 1944 – May 1945). In 1945 – 1949, commanding officer of the Northern Force Command.

143 An open letter addressed to Lieutenant General A. I. Zaporozhets, titled The Truth is on Our Side, was published in the "Za mir i svobody" (For Peace and Liberty) newspaper (issue No. 48 (No. 121)) on 27 June, 1944. In that letter, G. I. Zhilenkov appealed to his former comrades-in-arms to cease reststing the German army, "put an end to the Bolsheviks and the Stalin regime, conclude an honorable peace with Germany and stop the bloodshed…" (See: Russian State Military Archive (RGVA). F. 1699k. Op. 3. D. 5. L. 1)

144 In May 1943, the Executive Committee of the Communist International (ECCI) on the initiative of the Soviet leadership ruled to dissolve the Communist International. The decision was dated 15 May. On 8 June, upon receiving formal approvals from the member communist parties, the ECCI Executive Committee ruled its offices to dissolve starting 10 June, 1943. Excecutive funcions were transferred to individual communist parties, primarily to the VKP(b) Central Committee.

145 Alexander Nikolaevich Poskrebyshev (7 August, 1891 – 3 January, 1965), Major General, a prominent Soviet politician and a state and Communist Party functionary. In 1923 – 1924, managed administrative office of the RKP(b) Central Committee. In 1924 – 1929, assistant to the Central Committee General Secretary. In 1927, graduated from School of Law and Administration of the Moscow State University. Since 1930 in charge of the Central Committee Special Department (personal chancellery of Stalin). At the XVIII Party Congress in 1939 (and subsequently at the XIX Congress), was elected to the VKP(b) Central Committee (later: CPSU). During the war of 1941 – 1945, worked on Stalin's staff in Moscow. Was involved in planning of military operations and prepared documents for the Tehran, Yalta, and Potsdam conferences, and participated in the work of the latter two.

Kept working with Stalin until 1953. In 1953, Poskrebyshev was accused of losing secret documents, and he was removed from the position. It was reported that the incident was fabricated by Lavrentiy Beria and the documents were later found. Following Stalin's death was sent into retirement.

The Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the Soviet Union, one of the panels of the USSR Supreme Court having jurisdiction over major cases against top military commanders (Corps commander and above), as well as against defendants charged with state treason and counter-revolutionary activities. Collegium also oversaw operations of military tribunals. Established in 1924. From 1926 through 1948 was headed by military lawyer (later Colonel General of military justice) V. V. Ulrikh.

147 Vasiliy Vasilievich Ulrikh (13 July, 1889 – 7 May, 1951), a Soviet statesman, later Colonel Genreal of military justice (March 11, 1943). Following creation of the USSR, Chairman of the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the Soviet Union (1926 – 1948) and simultaneously (1935 – 1948) Deputy Chief Justice of the USSR Supreme Court. As a Chairman of the Military Collegium in 1926 – 1940, presided over the USSR military tribunals. In the 1930s–40s, was a member of the VKP(b) Politbureau Commmisssion for overseeing court cases. Presided over major political tries in the 1930s.

148 Nikolai Pofir'evich Afanas'ev (17 February, 1902 – 1979), military lawyer, Lietenat General. In 1940, Chief Prosecutor of the Red Army. From 1942 to March 1945, Chief Military Prosecuror for the Rail Transportation. From 1945 to 1950, Chief Prosecutor for the USSR Armed Forces and Deputy USSR Prosecutor General (from 1949).

149 Article 1 of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet Decree No. 39 dated 19 April, 1943, "On the penalties for the Nazi villains responsible for murdering and torturing Soviet civilians and captured Red Army personnel, for splies, traitors among the Soviet citizens and their accomplices" stated "to determine that German, Italian, Romanian, Hungarian and Finnish villains condemned for murdering and torturing Soviet civilians and captured Red Army personnel, as well as spies and traitors among the Soviet citizens are to be punished by death by hanging."

150 This is a reference to the first iteration of the Southern Front, established by directive of the Supreme Command on 24 June, 1941. The Front included the 9th and the 18th Armies, 7th Rifle Corps, 9th Special Rifle Corps, and all other military units located in the front's area of responsibility. In 1942, following the Red Army defeat in Kharkov and surrender of Rostov-on-Don, the Front was dissolved and its units were transferred to the North-Caucasian Front.

151 A reference to the 7th Werhmacht Army, commanded by Colonel General F. Dollmann, stationed in the South-West region of France. The 7th Army took part in combat operations following Allied invasion of Normandy.

152 In addition to V. D. Korbukov, M. A. Meandrov who assumed command over Vlasov's troops interned in the U.S.-controlled camps nominated to CLPR the following individuals: A. G. Neryanin, A. S. Bogdanov, I. D. Denisov and I. M. Grachev.

153 Article 58-1 "b" of the RSFSR Criminal Code stated that "The same crimes [Treason, that is actions commited by the USSR citizen to undermine the USSR military might, its sovereignty or territorial integrity, such as espionage, turning over state or military secrets, defection, illegal border crossing by ground or by

plane committed by military personel are punishable by death and confiscation of property."
Article 58-8 of the RSFSR Criminal Code stated that "Commmitting acts of terror […] and participation in committing such acts invokes measures of social protection listed in Article 58-2 of this Code" (i.e. up to capital punishment or deportation from the USSR with confiscation of property).
Article 58-9 of the RSFSR Criminal Code stated that "Destruction or damage to railways or other means of transportation by means of explosives, incendiary devices or any other means accomplished to support counter-revolutionary objectives, invokes measures of social protection listed in Article 58-2 of this Code" (See above).
Article 58-10 of the RSFSR Criminal Code stated that "Similar actions [Propagnda or public statements aimed at overthrowing, undermining or otherwise weakening the Soviet State, or committing other counter-revolutionary crimes, as well as producing or dissiminating or posesing of such literature] in the event of public uprising or using religious or nationalistic prejudicies, or in war time, or in the areas under martial law invokes measures of social protection listed in Article 58-2 of this Code."
Article 58-11 of the RSFSR Criminal Code stated that "All kinds of organised activites aimed at planning or commiting crimes listed in this Section, as well as participating in an organization established for the purposes of planning or commiting such crimes […] invokes measures of social protection listed in the corresponding articles of this Code."

[154] This is a reference to articles of the 1923 RSFSR Code of Criminal Procedure, Section XXIII, which concerns changing the charge and introducing new defendants.

[155] Formaly, A. A. Vlasov, I. A. Blagoveschensky, V. F. Malyshkin and G. N. Zhilenkov were stripped of government honors only by the Decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet No. 1799 dated May 16, 1990, and signed by the USSR President, M. Gorbachev (See: The State Archive of the Russian Federation (GA RF). F. R-9654. Op. 10. D. 630. L. 1).

ibidem.*eu*